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flip over Pacific
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Scene magazine



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sailors to lose
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SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2004

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AF general tapped to head Pacific Command

Nomination of officer outside Navy causes some surprise in region

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**When losing a
spouse means losing
a way of life**

Status of forces agreements
may deny survivors access
to some military services

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

World

International space station: Russian engineers used a newly docked cargo ship to push the international space station into a slightly higher orbit Friday.

Mission Control fired the engines on the Progress M-50 cargo ship about five minutes at 5:24 a.m. to push the station about 2.5 miles higher, the Russian space agency said in a statement.

Engineers hoped to use the procedure to accurately weigh the sprawling station, the space agency said.

Japan nuclear disaster: Officials at a Japanese nuclear plant where four workers died in a recent accident defended themselves Friday against charges of lax safety standards, saying there was no evidence the plant was dangerous before the accident.

The Nuclear Safety Commission grilled officials from Kansai Electrical Power Co. in a second day of hearings about the Aug. 9 accident, in which a cooling pipe burst at a plant in Mihama, 200 miles west of Tokyo, spewing boiling water and superheated steam on workers.

Pacific typhoon: Tropical storm Megi swept out to sea beyond northern Japan on Friday, leaving behind an arc of destruction that killed 13 people, left thousands homeless and cut off power to more than 125,000 homes, officials said.

Megi killed 10 people in Japan and three people in South Korea. Two people were still missing on Friday in South Korea.

Typhoon Megi first hit southwestern Japan on Tuesday, causing a string of landslides on the island of Shikoku. Many of its victims were elderly farmers who drowned after being swept into irrigation canals by driving water and mud.

China bird flu: A Chinese laboratory said Friday that a deadly strain of bird flu has been found in pigs, expanding the number of species that can be infected with the disease.

Bird flu ravaged poultry flocks throughout Asia earlier this year and killed 27 people in Vietnam and Thailand.

Researchers at the Harbin Institute of Veterinary Medicine have found the deadly strain, known as H5N1, in pigs, a lab worker said by phone from the northern Chinese city of Harbin.

States

School raid: A guns-drawn raid at a high school in Charleston, S.C., last year did not



Princess Diana fountain: A memorial fountain in London honoring Princess Diana had a second, subdued opening Friday with new signs up warning people not to wade in the unexpectedly slippery granite ring. The fountain was opened by Queen Elizabeth II on July 6, but shut down within days as falling leaves clogged the system and a few visitors were injured in falls.

violate civil rights laws and the case is closed, the U.S. Justice Department says.

"The evidence does not establish a prosecutable violation" of federal civil rights laws, a Justice Department official said in a letter to Goose Creek Police Chief Harvey Becker. The letter says, "Accordingly, we have closed our investigation."

The Justice Department decision "is a great relief," meaning there will be no criminal charges, Andy Savage, a lawyer for officers in the sweep, said.

Using a drug dog, police found no drugs or weapons in the Nov. 5 raid that frightened children, provoked marches and lawsuits and brought national media attention and the resignation of Stratford High School's longtime principal.

Robert Blake case: Months before the scheduled start of actor Robert Blake's murder trial in Los Angeles, a former investigator has been called to the stand by prosecutors who want to make sure his testimony is heard.

The "conditional examination" of William Jordan, scheduled for Friday, was requested by prosecutors who said that because he is more than 70 years old, he may be unavailable

at the time of the trial. His testimony would still be admitted at trial.

Nichols case: Deciding at the last possible moment not to appeal his conviction, Oklahoma City bombing conspirator Terry Nichols brought his case to a final close, saying he hoped it would begin a "long-awaited healing process."

For Nichols, it means a life in prison with no further recourse.

SUV lawsuit: A San Diego judge upheld a jury verdict that Ford Motor Co. was responsible for an accident that left a woman paralyzed when her Explorer rolled over, but reduced the damages against the automaker from \$369 million to \$150 million.

Superior Court Judge Kevin Enright said in his ruling Thursday the evidence presented at trial earlier this year showed Ford "acted with malice and that Ford acted with a conscious disregard for the safety of others."

Attorneys for defendant Benetta Buell-Wilson argued the automaker used weak support pillars in the vehicle "which resulted in the Explorer having a propensity to collapse in a rollover collision."

Business

File sharing lawsuit: In a judicial blow to the entertainment industry, a federal appeals court in San Francisco ruled that makers of two leading file-sharing programs are not legally liable for the songs, movies and other copyrighted works their users swap online.

The decision is likely to force the industry to take the more costly and less popular route of going directly after file-swappers. Recording companies already have sued more than 3,400 such users; at least 600 of the cases were eventually settled for roughly \$3,000 each.

Military

Anthrax contamination: An Army investigation into anthrax contamination outside secure labs at the United States' chief biodefense research facility blames cavalier attitudes for the safety breach.

The anthrax leaks were detected in April 2002 at the Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick, Md. Officials at the facility, which served as the chief forensic lab for the 2001 anthrax mailings that killed five people, revamped security and safety rules last year.

Stories and photo from wire services

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SOFAs can make a bad situation worse

When servicemembers die, dependents living overseas may find pacts reduce their benefits

BY JULIANA GITTLER
Stars and Stripes

In wars past, the arrival of a Western Union telegram signaled the worst for a waiting wife — the inescapable reality that her loved one, and usually the breadwinner, would not be coming home.

But over time, the Defense Department has developed casualty assistance and benefits systems to provide emotional and financial support for surviving families.

Spouses and family members receive financial assistance; they also get intangible benefits such as access to base commissaries; post offices; exchanges; medical and legal centers; Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities and Department of Defense-run schools.

But for servicemembers and Defense Department civilians living overseas — where status of forces agreements affect benefits and services — survivors may be unable to claim some of those intangibles.

"The amount of assistance that we can give a spouse may be restricted because of the SOFA agreements," said Maj. Kathleen Johnson, an 8th Army spokeswoman in South Korea.

Among other things, SOFAs allow U.S. products to be sold on bases without taxes and tariffs. Host nations make that concession because of the limited number of eligible SOFA personnel.

After a servicemember dies, his or her survivors lose their SOFA status after a brief period of time, along with rights to many services stateside families enjoy.

"On the death of a servicemember, their (family's) SOFA status basically terminates," said John M. Dykstra, chief of administrative and international law for U.S. Army Japan. "Once the soldier leaves Japan, whether he dies, PCSs (changes duty station) or ETSs (leaves the military), the family members don't have a reason for being there."

In terms of immigration, family members often can remain in the country. Those who are nationals of the host country can revert to their own citizenship. Others can apply to stay on tourist or other visas.

Even without SOFA status, spouses keep their military identification cards for life or until they remarry, and children keep theirs until they finish high school or college.

The ID card gives access to some benefits including medical

care at any military medical facility in the world, legal assistance and other emergency services.

"They're not barred from the installation," Dykstra said. "They're entitled to medical care."

In some cases, ID holders may have been able to use some overseas commissaries and exchanges. But it's not allowed under the SOFA in Japan, said Capt. Richelle Dowdell, a U.S. Forces Japan spokeswoman.

"You're not supposed to be able to use the commissary or BX if you're not SOFA status," she said.

The prohibition is entirely based on SOFA rules. ID holders can use commissaries, exchanges and other facilities if they move to the States — something survivors might not be prepared to do.

Glory Romero, a Philippines native married to a 2nd Brigade soldier deployed to the Middle East from South Korea, would return to her family in the Philippines.

"If something bad happens, I would have to pack to my home and stay with my family," Romero said in a telephone interview.

She isn't a U.S. citizen, so she's unsure what benefits she would have as a widowed military spouse.

SEE DEATH ON PAGE 5



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY PETER PHOTIKOS/Stars and Stripes

Surviving family becomes eligible for a variety of benefits from DOD

A servicemember's next-of-kin is entitled to a variety of benefits, depending on the member's status at the time of death, cause and location of death (whether in combat, for example), and other factors.

Commands assign the next of kin a casualty assistance officer to help guide through the grief and the paperwork to claim many state, federal and commercial benefits. Benefits can be financial and service-related.

In November, Congress passed the Military Family Tax Relief Act, which doubled the military death gratuity payment from \$6,000 to \$12,000 and made the entire payment tax-exempt. It had been only partially tax-free.

Families also can receive unpaid pay and allowances, burial assistance and payments for life insurance, Social Security, pensions and other programs depending on their situation.

Here are some of the benefits available to a surviving spouse or dependent regardless of where they reside. For more information on federal benefits for spouses, children and parents, visit: www.vba.va.gov/bln/dependents.

Base services

Identification card-holding survivors in the United States can use the commissary, exchange, medical facilities, Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs and legal and other services on a space-available basis. Overseas, survivors with IDs can access an installation and receive medical and general legal assistance on a space-available basis.

Education

The VA Dependents Education Assistance program can provide spouses and dependent children assistance for up to 45 months over 10 years.

A servicemember's life-insurance beneficiary also is eligible for any unused contributions to the Montgomery GI Bill education program. Visit www.gibill.va.gov/education/C35pam.htm for information.

Many colleges, universities, service aid societies and other organizations offer scholarships for dependents of servicemembers killed in the line of duty.

Civil service job preference

Surviving spouse may receive a 10-point veterans service preference if active-duty servicemember served in a wartime or peacetime campaign.

Burial benefits

Servicemembers are eligible for some burial payments as well as a grave site in any Veterans Affairs national cemetery with space; free care of the grave; a government headstone or marker; and a presidential memorial certificate. Visit www.cem.va.gov for information.

Dependency and indemnity compensation

At the monthly rate of \$967 for a surviving spouse, or more if there are dependent children.

Life insurance

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, most servicemembers have the highest level, \$250,000. Visit www.insurance.va.gov for information.

Citizenship and immigration

If a servicemember dies in combat, his or her immediate family may have preferential consideration in terms of immigration and citizenship. Visit <http://uscis.gov/graphics/citizenship/survivor.htm> for information.

—Juliana Gittler

State benefits

Some states, including California, Idaho and Michigan, offer no state death benefits to servicemembers.

Many states pay benefits based on or equivalent to the states' workers' compensation provisions. Some pay only those killed while on state active duty. According to the Air National Guard, states offering servicemembers specific injury or death benefits include:

Alaska: Benefits not to exceed \$750 plus worker's compensation. Death benefit to surviving spouse of guard member if deceased member served a minimum of five years. Lump-sum equivalent for full time served at \$100 per month for each month served.

Arizona: Worker's comp based on military pay but not less than \$400 per month.

Connecticut: State active duty: worker's comp. State or federal duty: \$2,000 to beneficiary.

Delaware: Service of state: disability based on larger of civilian or military wages. State active duty: \$15,000 to beneficiary; tuition for surviving child at state colleges.

Florida: State active duty: retained on duty up to one year plus medical costs, after one year placed on worker's comp. Survivor benefits of \$25,000.

Georgia: State active duty: receive pay, allowance, medical expenses for 90 days; if disabled after 90 days, benefits same as federal, including death gratuity, widows pension and funeral expenses up to \$500.

Illinois: \$50,000 compensation paid to beneficiary of members killed on state active duty.

Indiana: State active duty: members receive pay, allowance and medical expenses for 90 days; if disabled after 90 days, benefits same as federal, including death gratuity, widows pension and funeral expenses up to \$500.

Iowa: State active duty: permanent death gratuity of \$10,000 plus 12½ percent base pay. Surviving spouse: same plus \$45 to \$77 per child under 18 years — free tuition at state college; up to \$500 funeral expenses.

Kentucky: State active duty: worker's comp, college for dependents if member killed on state active duty; \$25,000 to spouse or child if death is in line of duty.

Massachusetts: Active duty: \$25/week for 200 weeks or lump-sum payment of \$2,000 to beneficiary.

Minnesota: Killed in line of duty: surviving dependents receive 100 percent tuition for one year; after that, 50 percent for dependents on federal active duty.

Mississippi: State active duty: survivors' benefits; \$500 burial allowance; \$25,000 state insurance policy for accidental death.

Nevada: State active duty: worker's comp, college for dependents during incapacitation.

New York: Members may claim pension survivors' benefits available to dependents depending on nature and extent of disability.

Ohio: State active duty: death benefit paid if adjudant general determines death is in line of duty.

Pennsylvania: Worker's comp plus \$100/month to spouse of member killed on duty; \$25,000 for widows with four children. Tuition credit for dependent children.

Puerto Rico: Life insurance and funeral expenses.

Texas: Disability: \$400/month plus 12½ percent of base pay; survivors: same plus \$1,830 for funeral expenses; surviving dependent child: \$200/month; adjustment for additional children.

Utah: Relief that the Legislature deems proper.

Vermont: Worker's comp and Guard scholarships at state college for children of members killed on duty (except for those on federal active duty).

Virginia: Indemnity: Four-year scholarship at University of Virginia Islands for children under 25 years of age.

West Virginia: Pay and allowances; compensation to survivors as provided by state legislation.

—Juliana Gittler

Air Force general picked to head PACOM

Martin would be only the second non-Navy officer to head command in its 57-year history

By JOSEPH GORDONO
and JULIANA GITTLER

Stars and Stripes

For the first time in its history, an Air Force general will head the U.S. military's largest geographic command, officials said Friday.

Pending Senate confirmation, Gen. Gregory S. Martin, currently head of the Air Force Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, will become only the second non-Navy officer to command the United States Pacific Command since its 1947 inception.

Martin would replace Adm. Thomas F. Fargo, who served as commander of Pacific Fleet before assuming command of PACOM in 2002.

Officially, PACOM called the appointment of an Air Force general a "noteworthy," but not remarkable.

"U.S. Pacific Command is like all joint commands," said Lt. Col. Jay Steuck, PACOM chief of media operations. "It can be commanded by qualified officers from any service."

But privately, officers throughout the Pacific region expressed surprise at the announcement.

One high-ranking officer in South Korea speculated whether Pacific region force realignment plans had anything to do with the appointment, noting Martin's recent leadership of the materials command. It big changes to the number and location of bases are indeed coming, the officer said, what better person to have in charge than a logistician?

Martin, who began his career as a combat pilot, also has commanded several fighter wings and served as the Air Force director of operational requirements and principal deputy to the assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition.

Capt. John Haynes, chief of public affairs at Misawa Air Base, Japan, was thrilled to hear Martin would be taking PACOM's helm. Haynes served tours at Aviano,



Gen. Gregory S. Martin

Italy, and Incirlik, Turkey, when Martin was commander of U.S. Air Forces in Europe from March 2000 to August 2003. Haynes met Martin at Incirlik when the general visited for Thanksgiving lunch with the troops.

"It was extremely impressed with his leadership and the policies he enacted while he was the USAFE commander," Haynes said, emphasizing he wasn't speaking for the command.

Other regional command officials declined to comment.

"We aren't going to comment on a topic like this. We are not in a position to comment because we don't question policy, and that's the decision of the president of the United States and the secretary of defense," said Jon Nylander, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Japan spokesman, when asked the significance of the announcement.

Air Force officials in South Korea and Japan referred questions, variously, to PACOM or Pacific Air Forces, or simply read from the official PACOM statement regarding Martin's appointment.

Nonetheless, since 1947 all but eight days of PACOM's history have been under the command of a Navy admiral. Of the 22 previous commanders, the lone exception was Army Lt. Gen. Harold T. Fields, who served as commander from 11-19, 1994.

Though not tagged as an interim commander, Fields held the position for only one week after

Adm. Charles R. Larson was transferred to head the U.S. Naval Academy in the wake of the Tailhook scandal.

PACOM officials pointed out the shift in command to an Air Force officer isn't unprecedented. Most major combat commands historically have been commanded by one service, but in the past few years, that trend has changed as the military moves toward more joint activities.

Southern Command had 45 successive Army leaders until Marine Corps Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm took the reins in 1997, followed by fellow Marine Gen. Peter Pace in 2000. Command returned to the Army with current commander Gen. James T. Hill.

Since 1952, all but two European Command commanders were Army. The two exceptions were Air Force generals.

"Gen. Martin is a superb officer. I know him personally from previous service together in the Pentagon. He has a tremendous record and a wonderful reputation," Fargo was quoted as saying in a PACOM news release, which also noted Fargo will retire after relinquishing command.

Martin is in his 34th year of service, officials said. He graduated

PACOM commanders since January 1947

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Adm. John S. McCain Jr. - July 31, 1968 - Sept. 1, 1972
Adm. Noel A.M. Gayler - Sept. 1, 1972 - Aug. 30, 1979
Adm. Maurice F. Weisner - Aug. 30, 1979 - Oct. 31, 1979
Adm. Robert L.J. Long - Oct. 31, 1979 - July 1, 1983
Adm. William J. Crowe Jr. - July 1, 1983 - Sept. 18, 1985
Adm. Ronald J. Hayes - Sept. 18, 1985 - Sept. 30, 1988
Adm. Huntington Hardisty - Sept. 30, 1988 - March 1, 1991
Adm. Charles R. Larson - March 1, 1991 - July 11, 1994
Army Lt. Gen. Harold T. Fields - July 11, 1994 - July 19, 1994
Adm. Richard C. Macke - July 19, 1994 - Jan. 31, 1996
Adm. Joseph W. Prueher - Jan. 31, 1996 - Feb. 20, 1999
Adm. Dennis C. Blair - Feb. 20, 1999 - May 2, 2002
Adm. Thomas B. Fargo - May 2, 2002 - present

Source: PACOM

from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1970 and was credited with 161 combat missions in Southeast Asia, according to his official biography. Before his stint at the Air Force Materiel Command, Martin was commander of U.S. Air Forces Europe and Allied Air Forces Northern Europe.

As a pilot, Martin has logged more than 4,500 flying hours in aircraft ranging from the F-4 to the F-15 and the C-20.

Greg Tylor and Jennifer Swan contributed to this report.

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Death: Casualty assistance reps ease families' burden

DEATH, FROM PAGE 3

"It all seems very complicated. Some of the benefits would be worth keeping, but some of them would not be worth all the paperwork. I'm sure the military will have people to help if something happens. It's probably easier for that in the Philippines, since there are many former military."

While she doesn't like talking about it, she has talked with her husband about "emergency" plans in case something happens — something legal and casualty assistance officers suggest all servicemembers and their families do.

"Nobody likes to face the 'what ifs,' but we all know we should," Johnson said. "Families [otherwise] have to make some tough de-

cisions at a very bad time, especially if they're grieving."

Denver's McClintock, 49, of Uijongbu, South Korea, is married to a South Korean national. A former Army and Navy special operations officer, he's now a Defense Department employee deployed to the Middle East as the 2nd Brigade Combat Team (Strike-force) safety officer. Before leaving, he made a few preparations.

"I went to the JAG before I came [to Kuwait]. I never expected I would be coming here and wanted to be prepared," he said. "I drafted a will and a living will in the event I end up at a vegetable and gave her a general power of attorney."

But McClintock didn't discuss too much with his wife.

"My wife doesn't want to talk about it. The women don't want to hear that you might die. They don't want to contemplate that it might happen," he said.

Army 2nd Lt. Valerie Manuel has seen the effect of that, during her monthlong stint as the Camp Zama casualty assistance officer, the person responsible for helping a grieving family after the death of a servicemember.

Manuel said when spouses are unsure of their options, it can make the devastation worse.

After notifying a family of a death, Army casualty assistance officers — called casualty assistance representatives by the Air Force and casualty assistance calls officers by the Navy — pass the com-

mand's condolences and begin walking survivors through the maze of paperwork and details.

"Your job is to take them through everything, to pretty much ease their burden," Manuel said. "When you're grieving, the last thing you want to do is deal with paperwork."

While serving as CAO, Manuel assisted an 80-year-old spouse of a community member who died — someone who had retired from the military after serving in World War II, Korea and Vietnam, who later retired from civilian duty at Camp Zama.

His widow, a naturalized American born in Japan, needed help figuring out pensions, insurance policies and other paperwork.

"It was difficult because she

didn't have all the paperwork she needed," Manuel said.

That stress is hard enough. It could be worse for widows who don't speak English and have no community to fall back on.

Manuel said servicemembers should make sure spouses are aware of all options and discuss them. They can visit the casualty assistance office, legal office and family support centers at installations to talk about the what-ifs. "For a lot of servicemembers, if they're married to foreigners, the women don't seem to know what the finances are," she said. "They need to make sure their spouse is involved."

Seth Robson and Joe Giordano contributed to this report.
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BAS allowance to cease for Sasebo sailors

Sailors in bachelor enlisted housing also will see COLA reduced to promote galley

By GREG TYLER

Stars and Stripes

SASEBO NAVAL BASE, Japan. Base officials will stop basic allowance for subsistence and reduce the cost-of-living allowance effective Aug. 31 for all bachelor enlisted housing residents.

Officials said they reviewed the operations of the Shogun Café galley and determined the facility is underutilized. The loss of BAS and a 53 percent reduction in COLA that comes with being designated "Barracks COLA," rather than "Single COLA," will affect about 157 sailors residing in bachelor enlisted housing.

"Individual installation commanders make the determination on the authorization of BAS at their base," said Charles T. Howard, base spokesman.

According to base officials, sailors ranked E1-E9 receive BAS at \$254.46 per month if authorized. If not, \$213.00 is deducted, leaving partial BAS at \$41.46 per month.

As for the shift in COLA status, the change also is significant, sailors say.

For example, a seaman with less than two years of service receives Single COLA at \$698.83 per month; the Barracks COLA is \$338.84. A seaman with more than two years of service receives \$728 in Single COLA; Barracks COLA is \$352.58.

"It's ridiculous. It's treating us like garbage... that's what it is," said Petty Officer 3rd Class David Hunter, a master-at-arms in the base security department.

Sasebo's galley is open daily from 6:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. (9 a.m. on weekends and holidays), 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Sailors must submit a special request to Sasebo's Chief Staff Officer Cmdr. Bernard P. Wang to continue to receive BAS. The request must show that the galley is impractical for them to use.

If the request is approved, however, they receive partial BAS at a daily rate of \$1.

"Thirty dollars? Really now, that might last me a three-day work period. Everybody averages about \$10 per day for food. If they take this away (BAS and Single COLA reductions), we're screwed," Hunter said.

"In the past, we've interpreted liberally whether messing is available or not," Wang was quoted as saying in a recent base news report. "However, what we've seen is it has an adverse effect on the galley. We have a wonderful galley, yet we don't have a lot of people coming through it."

"It's something available to all sailors living on base and working in the main base area," Wang added in the report.

"Well, for us in security, it does not work," Hunter said Friday. "Right now, I'm on nights. I have to get up at 3 p.m., be at work by 4 p.m., arm-up by 4:30 p.m., being at my post at 5 p.m. and my post lasts from 5 p.m. until 11 p.m. straight. When am I supposed to go to the galley? That's my work schedule."

"Then from 11 p.m. until 5 a.m., I have to patrol and protect the base and conduct force protection," he said. "Then after that, we go and PT (physical training). Then we have to get eight hours of sleep per night or we cannot get armed-up the next day for work."

"So, I can't eat breakfast. I can't eat lunch. I can't eat dinner at the galley. I have to go to McDonald's where it cost \$5 for a friggin' 10-piece McNuggets," Hunter said.

"We can't cook in our rooms, we can't have anything in our rooms, and in security (department), we aren't even allowed to

go to our rooms [during a work shift]. The only recourse we have is to pay the prices on the base at the fast food places."

There is a process allowing sailors to receive reimbursement for missed meals at a rate of \$1.70 for breakfast and \$3.30 for lunch and dinner. The base commander, chief staff officer or one of their designees must approve these requests.

Base officials say the galley is not operating near capacity. Civilians are not allowed to purchase meals in the galley except on a few specified occasions.

"The money received by the galley is based on the number of authorized users in the facility," Wang said in the report. "If less people use it, then we get less money to operate it."

"We're relying on people who have to pay for galley use to subsidize it, but in many cases, it's not a profitable venture. So we want to take a look and tighten up BAS as we're doing now."

In order to receive BAS, a galley or messing must not be available or must be "impractical." A couple of commands operate from locations other than the main base facility in Sasebo, including at the Hario Housing Village and the Sakai Laydown Facility, the home of Assault Craft Unit Five, Sasebo Detachment. Officials say they want to look at those cases on an individual basis.

"We will be looking closely at



GREG TYLER/Stars and Stripes

Petty Officer 1st Class John Perkins from Assault Craft Unit One, Sasebo Detachment, goes through the serving line Friday at the Shogun Café, Sasebo Naval Base's galley. The base command is trying to get more sailors to utilize the facility.

requests to continue present rates of BAS for those unable to use the galley due to duty or watch standing requirements," Howard said.

"A barometer, if you will, would be if a sailor's schedule or work location caused him or her to miss two meals a day for four days in the seven-day week. That would be a case where continuation of existing BAS would likely be approved. Other situations of individual sailors will be considered," he said.

The galley staff also is being asked to make box lunches available, and to change hours to accommodate certain shifts, according to base officials.

"What we're trying to do is lower the operating margin of the galley so we can give better service there," Wang said. "It's such a good galley that we just want to encourage more people to use it."

E-mail Greg Tyler at: tylerg@strpsrps.osd.mil

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AAFES raising cost of school lunches

Rising food, labor, transportation prices across U.S. cited for 10-cent hike

BY VINCE LITTLE

Stars and Stripes

The price of lunch just went up in the school cafeteria.

For the first time since 1995, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service is raising the cost of full meals in overseas Department of Defense Dependents Schools. The 10-cent adjustment will be in effect for the upcoming school year, bumping the price to \$2.05 for elementary students and \$2.20 at the middle and high school levels.

But the change won't apply to the free/reduced lunch program and breakfast meals, which make up about 40 percent of meals served in school cafeterias on Army and Air Force installations throughout the Pacific and Europe, AAFES officials said. That price remains at 40 cents.

"The adjustments are necessary to cover recent increases in food, labor and transportation costs," said Sgt. 1st Class Amanda Glenn, a spokeswoman at AAFES

Pacific Region headquarters on Okinawa. "Those costs have gone up across the U.S. There have been rises in cheese and dairy prices, as well as meat and poultry products."

"This doesn't just affect AAFES. It's across the board."

Kristine Sturkie, a spokeswoman at Navy Exchange Service Command, said NEXCOM would follow suit for their locations in Japan.

"Our prices will be going up as well, as with AAFES," Sturkie said Friday.

AAFES handles school lunches on Okinawa; a Marine Corps spokeswoman confirmed that the Marine Corps ran the school lunch program at Iwakuni air station, but would not confirm a price change on Friday.

AAFES conducts its overseas school meal program on a "break-even basis," Glenn added, and reviews that pricing policy annually.

The increase didn't sit well with some parents in the Pacific.

"Ten cents isn't that much, but when you have several kids in your family, it adds up," said Camp Foster, Okinawa, resident Nancy Cringan, who has a daughter in high school and another in elementary. "I think more people are going to start sending their kids to school with packed lunches."

Her husband, Gunnery Sgt. Dave Cringan, a career planner for Marine Air Group 36, said he thinks lunches should be provided for free, since the government already funds the school.

Tyler Eaves, a substitute teacher on Okinawa, said she packs her lunch to avoid spending too much money in the school cafeteria during the week.

"I don't agree with the lunch price increase," said Eaves. "Some kids can't afford lunch now. Maybe AAFES should have asked a few more people before making the increase."

April Washington, a mother of three, all of whom attend Camp Foster's Zukeran Elementary School, says she could under-

stand the spike if there were better choices of food.

"I just don't agree with the increase," said Washington. "Ten cents may not seem like a lot when you've got the money, but try paying for lunch for three children and 10 cents starts to add up each week."

AAFES provides U.S. Department of Agriculture-approved school meals to students on Army and Air Force installations in 10 countries throughout Europe and the Pacific, the news release stated. The program serves about 4.5 million lunches in 136 schools each year.

"We always set this on a break-even basis," Glenn said. "We had to raise the prices so we could meet those costs in providing meals. We do not make a profit in that."

In addition to USDA pattern meals, school cafeterias offer an assortment of healthy menu alternatives, according to the news release.

Fred Zimmerman, Mark Rankin and Pat Dickson contributed to this report.
E-mail Vince Little at: little@pstrips.osd.mil

Inflatable boat race set

The annual George I. Purdy RHIB Race (rigid hull inflatable boats) starts at 10 a.m. on Sept. 9 at Kosano Park. The event is Yokosuka Naval Base's traditional gathering to determine the "saltiest" and most professional sailors in the Western Pacific Region.

Crews from the base's ships race their RHIBs against each other, and participate in a costume parade to see who has the "saltiest spirit."

Contact Yokosuka Port Operations at DSN 243-7364 for more information.

Iwakuni saving energy with 'Green Outs'


Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station, Japan, is utilizing periodic "green outs" to control energy costs this summer.

A green out is a base request for personnel to voluntarily turn off unnecessary electricity at work and home.

Green out requests typically mean turning off or lowering settings of fans and air conditioners when rooms are not in use, and making sure lights are off in unused rooms. In addition, officials stress keeping all doors and windows closed, and using washing machines and dryers only after 4 p.m.


Please contact Iwakuni's utilities division at DSN 253-4556 for more information on green outs.

From staff reports



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Kerry pushes for life health care

If John Kerry has his way, any veteran who served two years on active duty or, if mobilized, even less, would be rewarded with lifetime access to health care from Department of Veterans Affairs.

That's the logical consequence of Kerry's call for "full, mandatory funding" of veterans health care, if the Democratic presidential nominee is elected and Congress accepts his plan to open VA health care to any veteran.

"What's critical is that people who served their country and want to go to a veterans' hospital will have the ability to choose to do so," said Kerry, in a Wednesday phone interview after his address to the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Cincinnati.

The Bush administration opposes mandatory funding of VA health care. It would require Congress to finance VA health care to a level sufficient to cover medical needs of all enrollees, using a per capita cost formula.

Mandatory funding, in effect, would put teeth into the Veterans Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996 which first authorized the opening of VA health care to any veteran.

But Congress did not fund open access. Instead it gave the VA secretary authority to control access in order to stay on budget.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates the added cost of mandatory VA health funding at \$30 billion in fiscal 2005 and more than \$165 billion from 2005 through 2008. That assumes many more veterans will enroll upon learning that VA funding is assured. Current enrollment is 7 million veterans but only 5.2 million expected to receive care in 2004.

As conceived by Kerry and congressional Democrats, mandatory funding would remove barriers to enrollment, which would mean reversing a decision by VA Secretary Anthony Principi in January 2003 to suspend enrollment of Category 8 veterans — those with income or total worth above poverty level and no service-connected injuries or ailments.

Principi said not only would mandatory funding add many billions of dollars to VA health care costs but it would dampen VA and congressional oversight of health care spending by relying on a formula.

"We have a responsibility to the American people to ... be ef-

ficient, effective and to provide high-quality care," said Principi.

Principi said mandatory funding could change the VA from a provider of health care to a "payer" for health care, and bring "serious unintended consequences."

VA already "vouchers out" a rising portion of care because VA hospitals and clinics can't meet demand. Mandatory funding would accelerate this growth, though contracting for care is preferred to building more hospitals and clinics which, by 2020, could be deemed

excess as veterans from World War II and Korea pass on.

Principi's concern is that as more care is contracted out, the VA could begin to look like any national health care system, and pressure would mount to merge, perhaps with Medicare. If that happened, he said, the uniqueness of VA health care, from expertise in treating spinal cord injuries to vast experience with posttraumatic stress disorder, could be lost.

"If you lose the VA ... you would lose all of those unique specialized programs," said Principi.

Kerry, in his VFW speech, promised to "lead the fight" for mandatory funding, referring to 500,000 veterans denied enrollment from the ban on accepting more Category 8 veterans. Later, in our brief conversation, Kerry didn't talk at the prospect of lifetime care going to veterans with little time in service and no exposure to combat or service-connected ailments.

"I have a plan that's going to provide health care to 97 percent of Americans within three years of the passage of the bill," said Kerry. "So it is absolutely logical that veterans should be a priority within that structure."

In his speech, he criticized Bush administration proposals to collect a \$250 annual health care enrollment fee for veterans with no service-connected conditions and above-poverty incomes, and to increase their co-payments on VA-provided drugs, from \$7 up to \$15 for a 30-day supply.

Principi defended the proposed enrollment fee and higher co-payments, calling them reasonable cost-control initiatives.

To comment, write Military Update, c/o Star, 2211 Centerville Ave., VA 20120-1111, e-mail milupdate@aol.com or visit www.militaryupdate.com

Air Force begins construction for new squadron's training facilities

By B.J. REYES

The Associated Press

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii — Construction began Thursday on a \$190 million project that includes nine new buildings to accommodate a squadron of eight of the military's newest cargo aircraft.

The ground-breaking ceremony at Hickam Air Force Base comes as Air Force officials evaluate four sites on the Big Island, Kauai and Oahu under consideration for a runway that would be used for training when the C-17 squadron becomes fully operational in Hawaii by summer 2006.

The 535th Tactical Airlift Squadron would be the first C-17 squadron based outside the continental United States.

"It demonstrates our commitment in the Pacific," U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, said.

Basing the 535th at Hickam is expected to bring a greater role for Hawaii as a key location for troop deployments in the region.

Each of the \$236 million C-17 Globemaster III four-engine jets can carry 102 soldiers, or 85 tons of cargo.

The new squadron also is considered key to the Pentagon's plan of making the Army a more versatile strike force because the C-17s would be used to transport the 25th Infantry Division's forthcoming Stryker brigade to any world hot spot within days.

Col. Raymond Torres, commander of the 15th Airlift Wing based at Hickam, noted that the Pentagon has ordered 188 of the

C-17s, all of which would complement other squadrons if needed for missions such as a Stryker brigade deployment.

Meanwhile, Torres said the Air Force is continuing its work with state and federal agencies and native Hawaiian groups on the best location for a new runway that would be used for training by the 535th.

Sites under consideration include Kona on the Big Island, Barking Sands on Kauai, and Kaneohe and the former Barbours Point Naval Air Station on Oahu. Concerns already have been raised about noise and possible interference with other aircraft at the Oahu and Kauai sites.

The first C-17 is scheduled to arrive at Hickam in January 2006, with one more expected to arrive each month after that until August, Torres said.



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U.S. troops say cuts in S. Korea tempt North

Many servicemembers will miss military assignments in Europe

BY JASON CHUDY
AND JON R. ANDERSON
Stars and Stripes

Troops deployed to the gritty combat zones of Iraq and Central Asia say they'll miss tours to friendlier assignments in Europe, but they understand the reasons for cutting troops there.

It's reductions to forces from South Korea — a hardship tour for most soldiers — that's raising eyebrows among many troops.

As part of a plan announced by President Bush on Monday, the Pentagon will cut some 70,000 troops from Europe and the Pacific. The bulk of those cuts will come from Europe, officials say, largely from the Army's Germany-based 1st Armored and 1st Infantry divisions. Those units will relocate to the United States starting in as little as two years. In the Pacific, up to one-third of the 37,000 U.S. troops based in South Korea will leave the peninsula, as well.

Both Germany-based divisions and one brigade from the South Korea-based 2nd Infantry Division have been, or currently are, deployed to Iraq. "As much as I liked being stationed in Germany, it's about time we pulled out," said Sgt. 1st Class David Westphal, now serving in Iraq with a

Fort Riley, Kan.-based unit.

"The threat we had no longer exists," he said. "The threat is elsewhere." That threat, many believe, is in South Korea.

Many don't agree with cuts there, as it may provide too much of a temptation to nuclear-armed North Korea.

"As soon as you do that, they'll walk right down into Seoul," said retired Sgt. 1st Class Reginald Joseph, who's in Iraq working for Datapath Company, a military contractor. "It's a cakewalk."

Joseph, who retired from the Army two years ago, spent three years in South Korea with the 2nd Infantry Division.

"It definitely makes it easier for North Korea," agreed Dallas native Spc. Jeff Nichols of the 555th Engineer Company, who spent a year in South Korea.

"[Troops] being a hell of a lot closer to home is not good for national or world security. It won't be less for them."

Some soldiers believe that their

soldiering skills benefited from being stationed overseas.

"As soon as you're overseas, you have to concentrate more," said Joseph. "It gives soldiers a sense of urgency and an idea of what the Army is all about."

"Training is not the same back home like it is there," said Westphal. "The operational tempo of the Army will keep you overseas, anyway."

"We get to places sometimes that we don't like or that are a hardship, like Iraq, but even in those hardships there is a tremendous opportunity to grow and learn and expand yourself culturally," said Sgt. Brian Sutton of the 2nd ID's 2nd Brigade Combat Team.

"In that regard, I will miss an overseas assignment."

"Soldiers probably always look at stateside assignments as a good thing because that puts us closer to home and family," said the 33-year-old Sutton, who left his wife and children in South

Korea for this deployment. "If we are talking about moving units back to the States, I'm all for that."

Pfc. Travis Jenkins, however, couldn't disagree more. Jenkins was disappointed when he got assigned to Hawaii after graduating from military police school last year. His first pick: Germany. "I was really hoping to get an assignment there," said Jenkins, now deployed to Uzbekistan. "I guess now I won't get my chance."

His supervisor, Staff Sgt. Eric Gutierrez, got his chance a few years ago and wouldn't have traded it for the world.

"I loved Europe, I had a blast," said Gutierrez, who served in Germany from 1999 to 2002 and is now deployed to Uzbekistan. Still, he says he grudgingly accepts that times are changing.

"We've been drawing down Europe for years and this is probably next logical step," he said.

Others hope there will still be



Gutierrez

opportunities for duty there. "People really want to do tours in Europe," said Air Force Capt. Scott Meakin, an HC-130 "Combat King" navigator in Uzbekistan.

"A lot of people join the military to see the world," said Meakin. With troops restricted to base in Uzbekistan, Meakin says he doesn't feel like he's seeing much of this part of the world. "At least in Europe you can go out and experience the culture."

Others, however, say it's not where you serve, but

how you serve. "If you're going to be a good soldier, it's in yourself, not where you're at," said Sgt. Michael Reuben of the 2nd Battalion, 58th

Field Artillery, a native of Bronx, N.Y., who's deployed to Iraq with the 95th Military Police Battalion.

Seth Robson contributed to this story.

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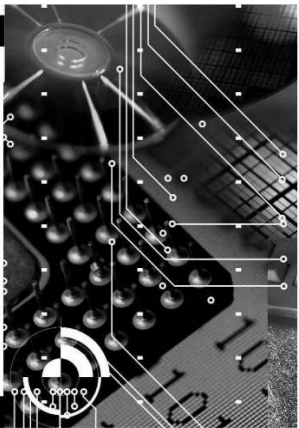
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Iraqi militiamen remove arms from inside shrine

By ABDUL HUSSEIN AL-ABEEDI

The Associated Press

NAJAF, Iraq — Militiamen loyal to rebel Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr on Friday removed weapons from the revered Imam Ali Shrine in Najaf in a step aimed at ending the two-week-old uprising centered on the holy site.

Al-Sadr's followers remained in control of the walled shrine compound, but kept their guns outside. Some of the same fighters who earlier had been in the shrine with weapons were still there, but now unarmed and mingling with civilians.

The firebrand cleric agreed to take a further step and surrender the shrine, which his Mahdi Army militia has used as a stronghold and as refuge. Al-Sadr aides were working out the handover of control over the shrine to Iraq's highest Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al-Sistani.

Turning the shrine over likely would mean an end to al-Sadr's revolt for the time being — though it would not necessarily mean the dismantling of his militia, a demand he so far has rejected.

Confusion was created when an Interior Ministry spokesman, Sabah Kadhim, said Friday evening that police had entered the shrine and arrested 400 armed

militants without incident.

However, an Associated Press reporter and other journalists who were in the shrine throughout the day said no police entered. In the evening, no Iraqi police or security forces were in the shrine.

Sporadic gunfire and occasional explosions were heard in the city Friday evening, but far less than previous nights.

The surprise moves to resolve the crisis came a day after Iraq's interim prime minister, Ayad Allawi, threatened to storm the shrine, a move certain to cause bloodshed and infuriate Shiites across Iraq. On Thursday and overnight, U.S. warplanes bombed militant positions in Najaf in fighting that killed 77 people and wounded 70 others.

But with Najaf on Friday at its quietest in weeks, Allawi backed off his threats, saying a peaceful resolution was possible. And his national security adviser said the government wanted al-Sadr to join

the political process.

"We are not going to attack the mosque, we are not going to attack Muqtada al-Sadr and the mosque, evidently we are not going to do this," he said in the evening. "The olive branch is still extended; he can take advantage of the olive branch."

By nightfall, many armed al-Sadr militiamen still were around the shrine, circulating in the Old City district. Militiamen and other followers also were inside the shrine — but unarmed. As gunmen entered, they left their weapons with comrades outside, then reclaimed them as they exited.

The AP reporter at the site saw no weapons in the shrine. It was not known whether any weapons were hidden inside, though militant leaders denied there were.

Allawi's government wants al-Sadr and his followers incorporated into the political process, Iraqi National Security adviser Mouaffaq al-Rubaie said. He told CNN that al-Sadr was not a terrorist and did not pose a strategic threat to Iraq like al-Qaida and other extremists did.

Meanwhile, insurgents set off a roadside bomb that killed an American soldier and wounded two others in the city of Samarra, northwest of Baghdad, the military said.

Professor: Iraq prison does aided abuse

By EMMA ROSS

The Associated Press

LONDON — Doctors working for the U.S. military in Iraq collaborated with interrogators in the abuse of detainees at Baghdad's Abu Ghraib prison, profoundly breaching medical ethics and human rights, a bioethicist charges in *The Lancet* medical journal.

In a scathing analysis of the behavior of military doctors, nurses and medics, University of Minnesota

to professor Steven Miles calls for a reform of military medicine and an official investigation into the role played by physicians and other medical staff in the torture scandal. He cites evidence that doctors or medics falsified death certificates to cover up homicides, hid evidence of beatings and revived a prisoner so he could be further tortured. No reports of abuses were initiated by medical personnel until the official investigation into Abu Ghraib began, he found.

"The medical system collaborated with designing and implementing psychologically and physically coercive interrogations," Miles said in last week's edition of *Lancet*.

"Army officials stated that a physician and a psychiatrist helped design, approve and monitor interrogations at Abu Ghraib."

The analysis does not shed light on how many doctors were involved or how widespread the problem of medical complicity was, aspects that Miles said is now investigating.

"Many of these cases remain under investigation and charges will be brought against any individ-

ual where there is evidence of abuse," said Lt. Col. Barry Johnson, U.S. Army spokesman for detainee operations in Iraq.

In a related matter, two military officials in Washington said Thursday that a high-level Army inquiry will cite medical personnel who knew of abuse at Abu Ghraib but did not report it up the chain of command. The inquiry also will criticize senior U.S. commanders for a lack of leadership that allowed abuses to occur, but finds no evidence they ordered the abuse, said the sources, who spoke condition of anonymity.

Miles gathered evidence from U.S. congressional hearings, sworn statements of detainees and soldiers, medical journal accounts and press reports to build a picture of physician complicity, and in isolated cases active participation by medical personnel in abuse at the Baghdad prison, as well as in Afghanistan and at the Guantanamo Bay detention center in Cuba.

In one example, cited in a sworn statement from an Abu Ghraib detainee, a prisoner collapsed and was apparently unconscious after a beating.

Medical staff revived the detainee and left, allowing the abuse to continue, Miles reported.

A military police officer reported a medic inserted an intravenous tube into the corpse of a detainee who died while being tortured to create evidence that he was alive at the hospital, Miles said.

In his article, Miles dismissed Pentagon officials putting the blame for the abuse on poor training, understaffing, racism, pressure to procure intelligence and the stress of war.

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Report: Jenkins to discuss plea bargain with military

Alleged deserter plans surrender at Camp Zama

BY NATALIE OBKO PEARSON
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Alleged U.S. Army deserter Charles Jenkins — accused of defecting to North Korea in 1965 and currently in Japan — is ready to meet American military officials to discuss a plea bargain, a media report said Friday, citing unidentified government sources.

Jenkins indicated to Japanese government officials that he intended to seek a plea bargain following talks with an independent legal counsel from the Army this month, Kyodo News agency reported.

Jenkins, 64, is accused of deserting his Army platoon in South Korea in 1965 and defecting to the communist North.

He faces several possible charges, including aiding the enemy, encouraging other soldiers to desert their posts and desertion, which is the most serious and carries a maximum life penalty.

Jenkins plans to go voluntarily to Camp Zama, an Army base just outside Tokyo, where he is expected to plead guilty to some of those charges in return for a lighter sentence, Kyodo said.

"The U.S. military will indicate its course of action within the month," Kyodo quoted a Japanese government source as saying.

James B. Craven III, a U.S. lawyer representing Jenkins' American relatives in a request for a pardon, said by telephone from the United States on Friday that he was unaware of any such developments in the case.

Neither Jenkins nor Japanese government officials could be reached for comment.

Jenkins arrived in Japan last month for medical treatment at a Tokyo hospital after leaving North Korea to be reunited with his Japanese wife, Hitomi Soga.

The two met in North Korea after Soga was kidnapped by North Korean agents in 1978. She returned to Japan in 2002.

Jenkins and their two daughters came in July.

The United States says it will press a case against Jenkins for desertion and other related charges, but

so far hasn't moved to detain the hospitalized man.

Tokyo has pushed Washington for leniency so that Jenkins can live here with Soga and their two daughters.

Jenkins has never been formally discharged from the Army and remains a sergeant.

Under a mutual security pact, the United States can ask Japan to hand him over to face U.S. prosecution.



Soga



Jenkins

Thailand time bomb destroyed in nick of time

BANGKOK, Thailand — Bomb experts destroyed a powerful explosive minutes before it was set to detonate early Friday in Thailand's troubled Muslim-dominated south, police said.

The 22-pound device was found by a worker outside a bank near the Malaysian border, said police Lt. Col. Metha Singhara.

Experts used a water cannon to destroy the bomb made from ammonium nitrate, sharpened nails and two types of plastic explosive — C-4 and Power Gel, which is commonly found at mining and construction sites.

"It was one of the most powerful bombs" we have found in the area, Metha said. "It could have caused the loss of many lives and serious damage to property if it had blown up, but luckily the bomb experts were able to destroy it."

From The Associated Press

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U.N. election office in Afghanistan bombed

The Associated Press

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — A series of bombs went off at a U.N. voter registration office in western Afghanistan, injuring six Afghan police, setting vehicles ablaze and shattering windows, police and the United Nations said Friday, the latest in a string of attacks targeting election workers.

The blasts occurred at 8 p.m. Thursday at a voter registration

site in Farah City, near the border with Iran and 465 miles southwest of the capital, Kabul, said Mohammed Rasool Khan, the deputy police chief for the province.

U.N. spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva said there were six explosions in all. He said there were three international U.N. staffers at the site at the time, and none were injured.

The U.N. staffers had finished most voter registration work in

the province and were to be moved to Herat, the province directly north of Farah.

"There were no casualties [to U.N. workers], but there was damage to the building and vehicles," de Almeida e Silva said.

"This confirms the concerns we have regarding security for the electoral process," he said, adding that the United Nations welcomed a decision by NATO to beef up its peacekeeping force ahead of the Oct. 9 vote.

"The sooner they get here the better," de Almeida e Silva said.

Khan said one bomb went off at the perimeter of the site, near a group of Afghan police who were standing guard.

Six injured police were being treated at a hospital in the city, some with serious injuries.

The other blast went off inside the compound, damaging five vehicles and blowing out several windows.

Police have detained four security guards, two Afghans working for the United Nations, and a U.N. security guard for questioning.

It was unclear who was behind the attack.

Taliban militants have been blamed for a series of attacks on workers preparing the country for its first presidential vote.

Scores of election workers and civilians have been killed in the attacks.



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Japanese military suffers high suicide rate

BY AIKO HAYASHI

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Suicides are surging this year among Japan's increasingly active military and have hit a record pace that outstrips the national rate, the Defense Agency said.

In the first four months of this fiscal year, which began in April, 31 members of the Self-Defense Forces killed themselves, a spokesperson for the Defense Agency said Thursday.

If the trend continues, the military would suffer 93 suicides for the year, with an annual rate of 39 suicides per 100,000 soldiers — far above the rate of 27 suicides per 100,000 reported in fiscal 2003 in the general population.

The highest number of suicides among Japanese soldiers in one year so far is 78 in 2002. The Self-Defense Forces has 235,899 members.

Suicides in Japan in general hit an all-time high last year at 34,427, the National Police Agency reported last month. The trend was blamed on health and financial troubles.

The increase in military suicides comes as Japan has deployed troops on a humanitarian mission to Iraq, the first time Japanese soldiers have gone to a combat zone since the end of World War II.

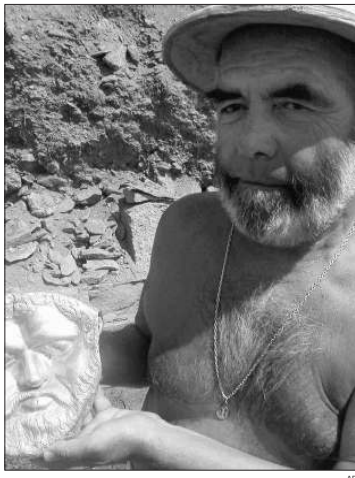
The Defense Agency spokesperson refused to comment on the reasons for the increase or release details such as the locations of the deaths.

But Yumiko Misaki, acting director of the Tokyo Lifeline counseling service, said Japan's soldiers have been under increasing emotional strain in recent years.

"The change in environment in the military, such as the transfer of members away from their families, makes it difficult for them to find a place they feel at ease," she said.

The threat of violence also is taking its toll, Misaki said.

"They feel more fear than ordinary people," she added.



Bulgarian archaeologist Georgi Kitov shows a 2,400-year-old golden mask Friday in Shipka, Bulgaria. The mask, bearing the image of a human face and made of solid gold, was discovered Thursday in the tomb of an ancient Thracian king, near the village of Shipka.

Report: Ancient mask made of gold found in Bulgaria

2,400-year-old artifact discovered in tomb

The Associated Press

SOFIA, Bulgaria — Bulgarian archaeologists have unearthed a 2,400-year-old golden mask in the tomb of an ancient Thracian king, a newspaper said Friday.

The mask bears the image of a human face and is made of one pound of solid gold, the project's lead archaeologist Georgi Kitov told the local "Trend" daily.

The discovery was made on Thursday near the village of Shipka, 124 miles east of Sofia.

Kitov, who is at the excavations site, could not be reached immediately for comment.

Dozens of Thracian mounds are spread throughout this region, which archaeologists have dubbed "the Bulgarian valley of kings" in reference to the Valley of Kings near Luxor, which is home to the tombs of Egyptian Pharaohs.

"This unique mask looks even better than the famous image of King Agamemnon."

Georgi Kitov
Archaeologist

"This unique mask looks even better than the famous image of King Agamemnon," the Greek hero described by Homer in the Iliad, Kitov was quoted as saying.

"This is the first Thracian mask of solid gold ever found," he was quoted as saying, adding that

previously archaeologists had only found masks covered with golden foil.

Kitov suggested that the mask could belong to King Seutius III, the Thracian king who ruled these lands in the fifth century B.C.

The tomb was covered with six stone slates, each weighing at least 4,400 pounds. The king's remains have not yet been found, but excavations at the tomb

continue, Kitov said.

In addition to the golden mask, archaeologists discovered a golden ring with a rower's image as well as many bronze and silver vessels, the report said.

Serving time — and food

Notorious Cape Town prison opens new restaurant in cafeteria

BY LAURIE GOERING
Chicago Tribune

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — The waiters wear black bow ties, the steaks are thick and juicy, and the tables at night are bathed in candlelight. But the Pollsmoor Mess isn't your typical restaurant.

Behind the kitchen door, the cooks sport orange jumpsuits and tattoos. Tips to waiters are carefully controlled. And through one of the windows, behind a row of blooming trees, is a 30-foot-high fence of electric razor wire.

Pollsmoor Prison, the notorious Cape Town lockup where Nelson Mandela served part of his 27-year sentence, has dressed up its former guards' cafeteria and opened the new restaurant to the public.

Diners who don't mind a car search and a bit of questioning about their motives for visiting can enjoy surf and turf or a dozen other specialties, cooked and served by inmates.

The idea is to provide job training for some of Pollsmoor's more cooperative prisoners and break the cycle of recidivism that lands most ex-cons back in jail when they can't find work.

"If they can't get jobs, crime is always an option for them," said Abraham Bruntjies, the restaurant supervisor. "We want to make sure when they leave they have options."

Open for lunch seven days a week, and for dinner two evenings, the restaurant features a menu that includes buttery snails on toast; chicken cordon bleu; a seafood platter of mussels, shrimp, langoustines and calamari; and desserts from tarts to ba-

nana splits. There's a "kiddies" menu offering chicken wings and hamburgers, and diners eager to imbibe can choose from beer, spirits or some of the superb South African wines produced at the wine estates near the prison.

Just as enticing as the food is the chance to chat with waiters in jail for home invasion, theft or other non-violent crimes.

"Inside [the cellblock] there's so much stress. You come here, and it's nicer," says Masheza Peter, 25, who's doing 6 years for stealing cars.

"This is good work. You meet a lot of people and you get tips."

Inmates chosen for their cooperative attitude start work in the restaurant's kitchen washing dishes

and scrubbing floors and then move on to grilling, frying or other cooking tasks. Eventually the most talented of them — those with the best English skills and most polished manner — move to the restaurant floor as waiters.

"When these guys arrive they know nothing about being a waiter," Bruntjies said. But after taking part in a once-a-year training course, or simply learning from other inmates, the restaurant's four cleaners, six to eight cooks and six waiters quickly master everything from steaming mussels to touting wines, he said.

Prison staff members have worked hard to improve the former cafeteria's rather industrial ambience. Burgundy curtains

adorn the windows, country-style wooden chairs surround tables swathed in laminated floral cloth and potted plants dot the corners.

Still, there are reminders that this is dinner behind bars. A small box on the menu warns that "it is illegal for any inmate to be in possession of money," so tips should be deposited in a box at the front, to be converted to credit at the prison commissary.

Besides feeding wardens from

Pollsmoor and other prisons, the restaurant pulls in a mixed crowd of novelty-seeking tourists and locals drawn by the bargain prices, particularly an impressive \$5.60 T-bone.

Prison officials, eager to bring more inmates into the training program, already

have expansion plans in mind. The restaurant has begun playing host to and catering wedding receptions on weekends, and a group of chalets — once reserved for visiting wardens — are open to visitors. There's also a driving range and a camper park available for vacationers on the prison grounds.

Keith de Vries, a spokesman for Pollsmoor, envisions the day when busloads of tourists, visiting Mandela history sites, pull up at the Pollsmoor Mess for lunch.

But Bruntjies cautions that the restaurant's unique environment requires working "in a controlled manner."

Visitors "should be open to being searched," he said. "And they need to call ahead."

"This is good work. You meet a lot of people and you get tips."

Masheza Peter
Inmate

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Kennedy nearly grounded by terror list confusion

BY LOLITA C. BALDOR
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A top Homeland Security official has apologized to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, who was stopped at airports because a name similar to his appeared on a watch list of people considered dangers to fly.

The Massachusetts Democrat said he was stopped by airline personnel five times as he tried to get on US Airways shuttles between Washington and Boston.

"If they have that kind of difficulty with a member of Congress, how in the world are average Americans, who are getting caught up in this thing, how are they going to be treated fairly and not have their rights abused?" Kennedy asked Homeland Security undersecretary Asa Hutchinson at a hearing Thursday.

Hutchinson, who apologized for any inconvenience to the senator, testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on the need for the federal government to take over the watch lists, which are currently administered by the airlines.

Another prominent Democratic member of Congress, Rep. John Lewis of Georgia, said Friday that he also has been singled out for extra scrutiny when he flies because someone on a watch list has the same name. Lewis said he can't get an electronic ticket, must show extra identification and has his luggage checked by hand.

Lewis said one airline representative in Atlanta



Kennedy

told him, "Once you're on the list, there's no way to get off it." Lewis said he filed a complaint with the Department of Homeland Security and even considered a lawsuit.

This week, Lewis got a call from another John Lewis — a faculty member at the University of Houston — who told him he also had encountered problems at airports because of his name.

"It's weird," the professor said. "But I like being classed with Ted Kennedy and the congressman. It makes me feel more important."

Kennedy said he was stopped at airports in Washington, D.C., and Boston three times in March. Airline agents told him he would not be sold a ticket because his name was on a list.

When he asked the agent why, he was told, "We can't tell you."

Each time, a supervisor recognized Kennedy and got him on the flight. But after the third incident, Kennedy's staff called the Transportation Security Administration and asked to clear up the confusion.

The TSA said a name similar to Kennedy's was on the watch list, and that he was later flagged to go through additional screening.

TSA also said that the airlines didn't handle the matter properly.

But twice after contacting TSA, Kennedy was stopped again at the airline counter.

The American Civil Liberties Union has filed lawsuits in San Francisco and Seattle over this issue, demanding that the government explain how wrongly flagged travelers can get off the lists.

Hutchinson said that people who experience problems can call the TSA ombudsman to clear things up.

Associated Press writer Jeffrey McMurray contributed to this story.

Gas blast



AP

Flames shot up Friday at natural gas storage facility in Moss Bluff, Texas. An explosion rocked an underground gas storage facility early Friday, forcing authorities to expand the number of people evacuated from around the blaze that continued burning a day after an initial blast triggered by leaking gas.

Three suspected Hamas members indicted by U.S.

BY TED BRIDIS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Hamas leader and two other suspected members of the Palestinian militant group were indicted on charges they participated in a lengthy racketeering conspiracy to provide money for terrorist acts in Israel, Attorney General John Ashcroft announced Friday.

The three activists allegedly used bank accounts in the United States to launder millions of dollars to support Hamas, which the U.S. government has designated as a terrorist organization.

The indictment against the three, filed in Chicago, was unsealed Friday.

The activists include Mousa Mohammed Abu Marzook, formerly chief and now deputy chief of the Hamas political bureau. Abu Marzook is believed to be living in Damascus, Syria, and is considered a fugitive, Ashcroft told a news conference at the Justice Department.

The two others — Muhammad Hamid Khalil Salah of Chicago and Abdelhaleem Hasan Abdelraziz Ashgar of Alexandria, Va. — were arrested late Thursday night. Salah once worked as a substitute teacher in Chicago public schools.

The lawyer for Ashgar, Ashraf Nubani, called the indictment "politically motivated." He noted that Ashgar already was under home arrest stemming from an earlier indictment on charges of obstruction of justice and said Ashgar has appeared at every required court hearing.

Federal prosecutor Neil Hammerstrom said the latest indictment includes charges "far more serious" against Ashgar than he originally had faced.

It was the second major Hamas-related indictment announced by the Justice Department in the past month.

The three were charged with racketeering conspiracy for allegedly joining with 20 others since at least 1988 to conduct business for Hamas, which the government said included conspiracies to commit murder, kidnapping, passport fraud and other crimes.

Hamas has been blamed for dozens of suicide bombings in Israel.

Ashcroft said the three men "allegedly ran a U.S.-based terrorist and financing cell" associated with Hamas.

They "were indicted for their roles in [a] 15-year racketing conspiracy in the U.S. and abroad. The cell allegedly financed the activities of a terrorist organization that was murdering innocent victims abroad including American citizens," he said.

He said the three played "a substantial role in financing and supporting international terrorism."

The U.S.-educated Abu Marzook holds a Ph.D. in industrial engineering and lived in the United States for 15 years, in Louisiana and Virginia.

In 1995, he was detained by U.S. authorities on suspicion of involvement in terrorism. He was expelled to Jordan, and later sent by Jordan to Syria.

Salah returned to the Chicago area and has said he volunteered at the Quranic Literacy Institute as a computer analyst. In 2002, he applied for a job as a part-time lecturer on computer systems at City Colleges of Chicago's Olive-Harvey College, but he was fired in 2003 for failing to disclose the Israel conviction. Salah also worked for a time as a substitute teacher for the Chicago Public Schools and was removed from the list of approved substitutes at the same time he was fired by Olive-Harvey College.

Ashgar was accused of opening bank accounts in Mississippi for Hamas purposes.

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Veterinarians help fuzziest victims of Hurricane Charley

BY BRENDAN FARRINGTON

The Associated Press

PUNTA GORDA, Fla. — Animal rescue after Hurricane Charley hasn't been a matter of helping storm victims with their dogs and cats. Far from it.

Since teams of animal disaster specialists began arriving here Sunday, they've had their hands full with calls involving lions, goats, parrots and macaws, a days-old squirrel, baby raccoons, crows, horses, a ferret, llamas and cobras.

"A to Z," said Laura Bevan, director of The Humane Society's southeast regional office in Tallahassee. "If we haven't seen it yet, we'll probably see it before we leave."

That's on top of the dozens of dogs and cats that have been brought in for care or a temporary home. Hundreds have been sent to shelters in counties outside the disaster area and if not reunited with their owners will be put up for adoption.

Bevan is among 100 people taking part in the animal emergency response, which includes local, state and federal help.

People are driving through neighborhoods to find pet owners in need, delivering pet food, making rescue calls, providing emergency veterinary and kennel services and setting up three stations to take in and provide care for animals.

The Federal Emergency Man-

agement Agency has even brought in 35 veterinarians from as far away as Ohio, Utah, Oklahoma and elsewhere to treat animals in the 25 counties declared federal disaster areas.

At a compound set up next to a baseball field, Lloyd Brown held up a 2-month-old raccoon rescued after Charley hit Friday and fed it through a syringe. The tiny raccoon lapped at the milky liquid with its paws spread out and eyes like black BBs staring at Brown.

Brown put it in a crate with its sibling, then picked up a hairless animal with a tiny tail and bulging eyes, lids still shut tight. It was smaller than Brown's pinky and not easily recognizable to a non-animal expert.

"You didn't get enough, huh?" Brown said when the squirrel squirmed for more food. It was born right around the same time Charley struck.

Just after he finished feeding the wild animals, a group that also includes two small dogs, Brown jumped in his truck to respond to a call seeking help for dozens of birds.

He arrived at the home of Rich Naegeli, who was the first zoo director at Busch Gardens in Tampa. He found 60 exotic birds, from parrots and macaws to a pair of rare Australian slender bill corellas — white with orange necks.

Naegeli, who has also run zoos in Saudi Arabia and Boston, also



Melissa Forberg of Defunkia Springs, Fla., left, assists veterinarian Welch Agnew of the Pinellas County Animal Services with a stray puppy. The dog was dropped off at the animal rescue facility on Tuesday afternoon in Punta Gorda, Fla. The facility takes in animals that were found wandering after Hurricane Charley.

has four llamas, two horses, two dogs and a number of roosters and rabbits running around his expansive property on the far east edge of Charlotte County.

Naegeli and his wife, Dolly, didn't want the animals removed from the property, but they needed help. Their electricity has been out for four days and they can't pump water from their well for the animals — or for themselves and their daughter and grandson.

Brown tried and failed to hook the roaring generator up to the water pump as the parrots and macaws screamed loudly. He offered advice on finding an electrician, saying that would be the best solution.

"If you don't get the pump working, let us know and we'll get you water," Brown said.

Kip Rhoten rode off Charley in his bathroom with his two dogs,

Storm and Thunder. Storm howled as the winds whooshed outside and Thunder panted heavily. All survived in good shape and Rhoten's house made it through with only minor damage.

But the day after the storm, the dogs were in the back yard while Rhoten was away and someone came by and opened the gates. He was at the station seeking help finding them. A volunteer took down descriptions of the dogs and offered to help print and distribute fliers.

"I keep my fingers crossed," Rhoten said, adding that he would have rather have had more of his home damaged than lose his dogs.

He felt comforted that there were people ready to help him. "This is great. Here you've got people who have been killed, people who have lost their homes, but I still have a place to come where people want to help. I like that."

Alcohol machine raises concerns

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — It hasn't even arrived, and already some people want it banned.

A machine that combines alcohol and oxygen, one that can create an inhalable alcoholic mist is set to debut in New York City this weekend, but Westchester County Executive Andrew Spano wants a local or state ban against it because he worries it will attract underage drinkers.

Spano said the Alcohol Without Liquid Maska would harm efforts to drive down underage teen drinking and driving under the influence.

Westchester has a chronic underage drinking problem, and recently enlisted the help of a Justice Department contractor, the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation, to investigate the problem.

Over the past 18 months or so, teen drinking in Westchester has led to at least one party death, some spectacles of widespread drunkenness at school events and some police raids on home drinking parties.

The machine, created in England and already in use in other parts of the world, has users wear a mask and breathe in the alcoholic vapor. Promoters praise it for inducing a sense of well-being and say it doesn't lead to hangovers.

The machine is set to show up at the Trust Lounge in Manhattan on Friday. Its American distributor is Spirit Partners, of North Carolina.

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Health issue keeps girl from first Communion

BY JOHN CURRAN
The Associated Press

BRILLE, N.J. — An 8-year-old girl who suffers from a rare digestive disorder and cannot eat wheat has had her first Holy Communion declared invalid because the wafer contained no wheat, violating Roman Catholic doctrine.

Now, Haley Waldman's mother is pleading the Diocese of Trenton and the Vatican to make an exception, saying the girl's condition should not exclude her from the sacrament, which commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ before his crucifixion. The mother believes a rice Communion wafer would suffice.

Girl can't digest wheat wafer; church won't bend

"It's just not a viable option. How does it corrupt the tradition of the Last Supper? It's just rice versus wheat," said Elizabeth Pelly-Waldman.

Church doctrine holds that Communion wafers, like the bread served at the Last Supper, must have at least some unleavened wheat. Church leaders are reluctant to change anything about the sacrament.

"This is not an issue to be determined at the diocesan or parish level, but has already been decided

for the Roman Catholic Church throughout the world by Vatican authority," Trenton Bishop John M. Smith said in a statement last week.

Haley was diagnosed with celiac sprue disease when she was 5. The disorder occurs in people with a genetic intolerance of gluten, a food protein contained in wheat and other grains.

When consumed by celiac sufferers, gluten damages the lining of the small intestine, blocking nutrient absorption and leading to vitamin deficiencies, bone-thinning

and sometimes gastrointestinal cancer.

The diocese has told Haley's mother that the girl can receive a low-gluten wafer, or just drink wine at Communion, but that anything without gluten does not qualify. Pelly-Waldman rejected the offer, saying her child could be harmed by even a small amount of the substance.

Some Catholic churches allow no-gluten hosts, while others do not, said Elaine Monarch, executive director of the Celiac Disease Foundation, a California-based support group for sufferers.

"It is an undue hardship on a person who wants to practice their religion and needs to compromise their health to do so," Monarch said.

The church has similar rules for Communion wine. For alcoholics, the church allows a substitute for wine under some circumstances, however the drink must still be fermented from grapes and contain some alcohol.

Haley, a shy, brown-haired tomboy who loves surfing and hates wearing dresses, realises the consequences of taking a wheat wafer. "I'm on a gluten-free diet because I can't have wheat. I could die," she said last week.

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New Indian museum links ancient, contemporary

BY FREDERIC J. FROMMER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The newest Smithsonian museum is gathering ancient ceramics, intricate beadwork and modern art to illustrate the past and present of native peoples spread across the Western Hemisphere for some 20,000 years.

"It's a set of cultures with a deep past, but at the same time communities that are thoroughly contemporary — they're here right now too," said museum Director W. Richard West Jr. "There are 30 to 40 million native people living in the Western Hemisphere."

When the National Museum of the American Indian opens Sept. 21, it will seek to give the appropriate weight to injustices suffered at the hands of white settlers — but will not make that the focus of a history that sweeps over millennia.

"The truth is what it is," said West, who is of Southern Cheyenne extraction. "The history between Native Americans and Euro-Americans has been quite ugly. We do not propose to skirt that tragedy."

But, he said, the museum will show "so much good and so much positive along with the tragedy."

The five-story museum took the last remaining spot on the grassy National Mall between the Capitol and the Washington Monument — a four-acre site at the foot of Capitol Hill.

It is the first new museum on the National Mall since the National Museum of African Art and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, for Asian art, opened together in 1987.

Indian museum curator Gerald M. Rountree expects 5 million visitors a year.



Tinglits from various tribes and regions of the native American Indian sit at the Cultural Resources Center in Suitland, Md. The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian opens in September, with organizers hoping to balance a storied past with a living people.

Exhibits will include ancient artifacts, such as a 2,000-year-old ceramic jaguar clutching a man between its paws, as well as works from modern Indian artists George Morrison and Allan Houser.

Other exhibits will focus on the lives of Indians today, touching on the highs and lows. For many Indians, wealth generated by casinos has increased living standards. But Indians still suffer from higher poverty rates than the national average, and from higher rates of diseases such as diabetes, respiratory infections and alcoholism.

The Indian museum will be sur-

rounded by 700 trees and a wetlands area with plants such as yellow pond-lily and wild rice. The "three sisters" — corn, beans and squash — will also be planted.

The exterior, made from Kootenai limestone quarried from Minnesota, is rounded to reflect the curves of the earth, sun and moon.

The inside of the museum also encompasses curved features, with a skylight topping off a series of narrowing concentric circles that make up the building's ceiling.

Crystal prisms facing south will reflect sunlight through the muse-

um, and a "Welcome Wall" will greet visitors with 200 native words, all meaning welcome.

This is not the first national Indian museum, but it will be the biggest and most prominent. The late New York banker George Gustav Heyer collected much of what now makes up the Smithsonian collection in the first half of the 20th century, and used that to launch the original Museum of the American Indian in New York City.

After the collection fell into disrepair, the Smithsonian reached an agreement with Heyer to take it over in 1989. Later that

year, President George H.W. Bush signed legislation establishing a new Indian museum on the Mall.

The George Gustav Heyer Center remains in New York City as part of the Smithsonian's Museum of the American Indian, but it will serve a much smaller audience.

The museum in Washington will open its doors with 8,000 objects filling five major exhibitions.

That represents only 1 percent of the Smithsonian's 800,000 objects, which are in storage at the museum's Cultural Resources Center in Suitland, Md. Those items range from a 45-foot, 19th-century totem pole from an island off the coast of Alaska, to 11,000-year-old Clovis spear points from what is now New Mexico.

The collection includes items from every country in the Western Hemisphere.

The museum staff consulted with 24 tribal communities — half from the United States, and the other half from Canada and Latin America — in selecting items to display. The process took about four years, McMaster said.

"We are guided by a set of ideas," McMaster said. "The selection of objects began to illustrate the ideas, rather than the other way around."

Objects will include baskets, pottery, beadwork, stone carvings, photographs, textiles and mosaics, among others.

The museum has invited native communities from across the Western Hemisphere to participate in a "Native Nations" procession to mark the museum's opening. More than 250,000 people are expected to attend, many in traditional Indian dress.

Happy Meals mark a quarter-century

BY MATT SEDENSLEY
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Bob Bernstein's 9-year-old son at the same cereal from the same box every morning and stared at the packaging so intently, it gave Bernstein, an advertising executive, a great idea.

"I got to think," Bernstein recalled from his office at Bernstein-Rein Advertising Inc., "kids want something to do while they're eating."

And so the McDonald's Happy Meal, a huge money-maker for the fast-food company, was born, pairing a child-size meal with a tiny toy. The product, tested for two years, went into national release 25 years ago.

Happy Meals lure millions of children to McDonald's Corp. restaurants, and also bring in sales from parents who pick up a Big Mac or Chicken McNuggets for themselves when they stop in. Happy Meals are served at 31,000 restaurants in more than 100 countries and have made McDonald's the world's biggest distributor of toys.

Marketing executives agree, it was brilliant.

"Happy Meals proved that you could actually 'brand' a meal and make kids harass their parents for it," said Adam Hanft, president of Hanft Raboy & Partners, a New York advertising and marketing firm.

Exactly as Bernstein had planned.

"My feeling was if you give the children to think about McDonald's, mom would bring them there," he said.

What set the meal apart was the way it paired food and entertainment — an idea later advanced

with McDonald's addition of play areas.

"Up until that point, McDonald's was just a restaurant," said Jay Lipe, a marketing consultant who authored "The Marketing Toolkit for Growing Businesses."

"But with the advent of the Happy Meal, it also became a very convenient toy store," Lipe said. Bernstein's firm had been working with McDonald's franchisees for 10 years when he was challenged to create a promotion that would bring children back under the golden arches.

He holds the patent for the product's packaging and a bronze Happy Meal in his office — a gift from McDonald's on the meal's 10th anniversary — thanks him "for bringing the Happy Meal, a bold idea, to the McDonald's system."

Still, McDonald's credits Dick Brame, its former advertising manager in St. Louis, as "Father of the Happy Meal." He asked Bernstein to develop a children's meal concept, McDonald's says.

The Happy Meal — with a burger, fries, soft drink, toy and cookies (no longer included) — debuted in St. Louis, Kansas City, Phoenix and Las Vegas in 1977. It was tested in four other markets before being released nationally in the summer of 1979.

It helped streamline McDonald's operations and was a predecessor to its order-by-number menu. It wasn't the first such product at a restaurant, but it was the first to be so widely available.

"You know a good idea when you see it. I just didn't know how good it would be," Bernstein said.

Officials at McDonald's won't give any specifics about Happy Meal sales, but say they were up last year over 2002, and that they expect to sell 40 million more this year than in 2003.

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Talk show host Oprah Winfrey is joined by fellow jurors at the conclusion of a routine trial that turned into a media frenzy Wednesday in Chicago. Winfrey plans to bring her experience as a juror to her show next week.

Oprah to bring 'eye-opener' jury experience to television

By ANNA JOHNSON

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Oprah Winfrey plans to bring her experience as a juror on a murder trial to her TV show next week, saying her three days in the jury box were a "reality check."

Winfrey was one of 12 jurors who convicted a Chicago man of murder Wednesday after a routine trial that turned into a media magnet because of the billionaire.

"I think it was an eye-opener for all of us," Winfrey said in the Cook County Criminal Courts Building lobby, flanked by other jurors. "It's a huge reality check; there's a whole other world going on out there. ... When your life intersects with others in this way, it is forever changed."

Jurors deliberated for more than two hours before convicting

27-year-old Dion Coleman of first-degree murder in the February 2003 shooting death of Walter Holley, 23.

"It was not any easy decision to make," Winfrey said. "All of us have taken to heart this decision."

Coleman is scheduled to be sentenced next month and could face 45 years to life in prison.

Winfrey, who was paid \$17.20 a day, said she plans to do a show next week with other jurors.

More than a dozen reporters and sketch artists filled the seats in the cramped courtroom. Winfrey called all the attention distracting.

"This is not good for the victim's family. ... This is not about Oprah Winfrey. The fact is, a man has been murdered," she said.

Before she was chosen for the jury Monday, Winfrey said she thought she was too opinionated

to be picked. But afterward she said she was fair.

Prosecutors said Coleman and Holley had argued over a counterfeit \$50 bill, and Coleman shot Holley 11 times. Defense attorneys argued that several of the state's witnesses were not reliable.

"She was accepted by both parties and we want fair, intelligent jurors on a jury whether it's Miss Winfrey or anyone else," said prosecutor Kathy Van Kampen. Defense lawyer Cynthia Brown said she had thought Winfrey would be a good juror because she has been a lawsuit defendant — in a 1998 defamation case brought by Texas cattlemen — and might better understand what it's like to be accused of something. A jury exonerated Winfrey.

Associated Press writer Mike Collins contributed to this report.

Clinton's book buried in Ark. time capsule

By DAVID HAMMER

The Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK — To celebrate Bill Clinton's 58th birthday, a time capsule holding the former president's memoirs, along with DVDs, a cell phone and campaign buttons, was buried Thursday in front of the Clinton Presidential Library.

The stainless steel capsule, which will be opened in 100 years, also includes 3,000 messages from residents of all 50 states and letters from Clinton and his wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton.

"I encourage you, the readers of this message, to work together for a safe, happy, and successful future, and to never stop thinking about tomorrow," Clinton wrote — on a typewriter — in his letter.

The 200-pound capsule was hoisted into a vault under Celebration Circle, a cul-de-sac that will carry traffic to the front doors of the sprawling library when it opens Nov. 15.

Some of the capsule's weight can be attributed to Clinton's memoirs, the 857-page "My Life." Visitors to the library in 100 years will also get to see lists of the top movies, music and books from August 2004. (The New York Times best-seller list



Construction workers prepare to lower a time capsule Thursday in front of the Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock, Ark.

includes Clinton's tome, ranked No. 2.) A cell phone, CDs and DVDs are sure to be antiques by the time the capsule is opened on Aug. 18, 2104. As should the 2004 campaign buttons of Democrat John Kerry and President Bush.

Accuser's stepfather: Pay sought for Jackson video

By LINDA DEUTSCH

The Associated Press

SANTA MARIA, Calif. — The stepfather of the boy who accused Michael Jackson of molestation testified that he asked for payment for the family's participation in a video interview intended to restore Jackson's reputation.

"I said, 'This family has nothing and you're making millions from this and what are you going to do for this little family,'"

the stepfather said Thursday of a conversation he had with someone he identified only as the "gentleman from Neverland," a reference to Jackson's ranch.

Also on Thursday, Jackson claimed in a statement posted on his Web site that he and his family have been "vilified and humiliated" for years.

"I personally, have suffered through many hurtful lies and references to me as 'Wacko Jacko' as well as the latest untruth about me fathering quadruplets," Jackson

said. "This is intolerable and must stop."

The entertainer needed the judge's permission to issue the statement because of a gag order in the case.

At a pretrial hearing, the boy's stepfather said under defense questioning that the man he spoke with offered to give them "a college education and buy them a house." The stepfather was referred to as "Mr. Doe" to protect his identity and that of his stepson.

Thursday's questioning appeared to bol-

ster defense contentions the accuser's family tried to "shake down" Jackson for money.

Lawyers for Jackson claim the molestation accusations came when no payment was made.

Jackson, 45, is charged with committing a lewd act upon a child, administering an intoxicating agent and conspiring to commit child abduction, false imprisonment and extortion. He has pleaded not guilty and is free on \$3 million bail. The trial is set to begin Jan. 31.

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FACES N' PLACES

Rockers to play in swing states

The coalition of the willing-to-rock is growing. Sheryl Crow, Jack Johnson and Crosby, Stills & Nash have joined the nearly 20 other musicians trying to unseat President Bush in November.

Crow and company were added to the Vote for Change tour, which boasts a lineup of artists including Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, Pearl Jam and Dave Matthews Band. The musicians will perform in an array of combinations at some 38 shows in 32 cities over the course of 12 days in October, concert promoters announced Thursday.

Money generated from the concerts will go to America Coming Together, which promises on its Web site to "derail the right-wing Republican agenda by defeating George W. Bush." The shows will play in election swing states. They'll be presented by MoveOn PAC, the electoral arm of the liberal interest group MoveOn.org.

Lachey's famous crush

He had a crush on her, but Alyssa Milano doesn't mind — she thinks "he's hot."

Nick Lachey told "Access Hollywood" in a recent interview that he had to tell his "Charmed" co-star about his former crush to avoid the humiliation of having her find out from someone else.

Lachey plays Milano's love interest in an upcoming six-episode arc on the WB show.

"The first day I came I said, 'I'm just going... to tell you right now that your poster was hanging in my locker. Because you're going to hear about it and I don't want to be embarrassed later on.'"

Milano says the feeling is mutual.

"His eyes are like lavender," the 31-year-old actress told the syndicated entertainment TV show. "I can't even look at him when I'm working with him... Yeah, he's hot."

The new season of "Charmed" premieres Sept. 12 in the States.

When Lachey was asked if his pop star wife, Jessica Simpson, would have a problem with his on-screen lip lock with Milano, the 30-year-old singer replied: "I'm the clear here because when she did 'That '70s Show,' she had to kiss Ashton [Kutcher]. They did like five takes of the scene, so I got a free pass on the kiss thing!"

Frozen 'Nemo'

"Finding Nemo" is still dealing with water, but in a chilly state.

The Disney/Pixar film about a fish's oceanic adventure is getting the Disney on Ice treatment with elaborate costumes and choreographed routines inspired by the popular animated film.

"Finding Nemo" begins its 13-city tour in Lakeland, Fla., on Sept. 3. Other stops include Nashville, Tenn.; Richmond, Va.; Atlanta, and East Rutherford, N.J. The final stop is scheduled Dec. 8-12 in Raleigh, N.C.

Take a turn at Trump

First the board room, now the board game.

At his Fifth Avenue Tower in New York on Wednesday, Donald Trump unveiled his newest business venture: a new Parker Brothers board game with high stakes deals, millions and dollar sums in the billions. Move over Mr. Monopoly.

Trump, the Game is played by up to four players bidding on real estate, buying big ticket items, such as islands and office buildings, and making billion-dollar business deals just like The Donald does in real life.

There is, however, no gaming equivalent of bankruptcy, which has recently been a part of the Trump experience.

On Aug. 9, Trump Hotel and Casino Resorts announced plans to file for Chapter 11 and to form a new corporate structure where Trump surrenders much of his control.

Of course, players can terminate their opponents using the two words — "You're fired!" — made famous on Trump's reality TV show "The Apprentice." The Trump game "allows players to feel the power and make the deals," said Mark Blecher, senior vice president of marketing at Hasbro Games (the parent company of Parker Brothers).

The game retails for \$24.99.

Trump

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

Night's



AP PHOTO
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MORGAN LOOSLI
Stars and Stripes

'Village' director Shyamalan is big at box office, but will fans' expectations limit his creativity?

BY STEVEN REA

Knight Ridder Newspapers

NEW YORK — The "M" is not for "modest."

M. Night Shyamalan's "The Village" opened in the States recently, and though the 19th-century suspense stars Oscar-winners Adrien Brody and William Hurt and "Alien" queen Sigourney Weaver, it's the director's name that's being used to sell the movie.

Traillers for "The Village" begin with signature scenes from Shyamalan's biggest pics, "The Sixth Sense," "Unbreakable" and "Signs." His distinctive moniker — the "M" is for Manoj, the "N" is made up — sits boldly atop the film's title in print ads, posters, every aspect of the media campaign.

On July 18, Shyamalan was the subject of, and mastermind behind, a three-hour special on the Sci Fi Channel, an oddball mix of "making-of" hype and "Blair Witch" faux reality called "The Buried Secret of M. Night Shyamalan."

Last week, he sat for a 1½-hour Q & A beamed live by satellite to more than 40 theaters and hosted by the fawning, fact-challenged Joel Siegel. ("The Good Morning America" critic — who works for ABC, which is owned by Disney, the parent studio behind "The Village" — mistook an Indian actor in a scene from "The Sixth Sense.") And recently, Shyamalan holed up in Manhattan to do, by his count, 250 interviews with foreign and domestic TV, radio and print reporters.

"People ask me, why are the movies so successful? Why in so short a time?" says the boyish, ebullient filmmaker, whose troika of supernatural hits have a domestic gross of \$616.5 million.

"Because," he explains, "they are me."

Shyamalan goes on: "For example, Bob Dylan is one of the great singers of all time because he's him... The greater the artist is, the more specific they can be to themselves."

Whether he likes it or not — and, for the most part, he does like it — Shyamalan is becoming a brand.

"There's one star here — it's M. Night," says Tom Pollock, the producer and onetime Universal Pictures studio head. "There are certain directors who are brands. Their names, in fact, have become adjectives."

"Hitchcockian," he offers. "Hitchcockian means something... It means 'scary, suspenseful filmmaker.'"

"Capraesque.... To say a film is Capraesque, you're expecting a movie about a small-town guy who becomes a hero."

Shyamalanian? Shyamalanesque? M. Nightish? It

doesn't roll off the tongue yet. But the expectations are there, and so are the comparisons to Hitchcock. In its news releases, Touchstone Pictures hails Shyamalan — like Hitchcock, a merchant of suspense who likes to take cameo roles in his films — as "the cinema's modern master of suspense."

"If, ultimately, I'm known for something, it will be for something other than similarities to Hitchcock or to whoever. At least, that's my hope," Shyamalan said.

On one level, the Hitchcock analogy is pure, old-school movie-biz hype. But it's hype that Shyamalan, a gregarious fellow with firm control over his career, doesn't seem reluctant to perpetuate.

"To call him Hitchcockian is a big statement, but then Hollywood isn't known for being hesitant about hyperbole in any form," observes Hayes Roth, vice president of global marketing for Landor Associates, the strategic-branding consultancy. But Shyamalan has "demonstrated a skill and a style and a signature approach, which is the beginning of a brand."

When audiences see his name in the title and the marketing of the movie, it tells them "a little bit of what they can expect," says Sam Mercer, who produced "The Village" and has worked with Shyamalan on each of his pictures since 1999's out-of-nowhere smash "The Sixth Sense," which remains the 21st-highest-grossing film of all time.

They know "they're going to be challenged, and have an experience together, and they're going to be emotionally taken by what he has to say."

More than likely, they're also going to expect a twist ending. The denouement of "The Sixth Sense" spun people's heads, and the resolutions of "Unbreakable" and, to a lesser extent, "Signs" also threw audiences for a loop.

Whether or not "The Village" has a surprise ending — no comment from this quarter — audiences are anticipating one.

Which creates an odd challenge for Shyamalan: Has he boxed himself in after just a handful of titles? Does he feel burdened by the fans' expectations? And by the expectations of the studio, eager for another huge payoff? (Touchstone, with whom Shyamalan has been aligned since "The Sixth Sense," has a lot riding on "The Village." The Disney film division has had a lullbuster year.)

"Burdened" in the sense that I don't want [fans] to have a lot of an experience for having anticipated," the filmmaker responds. But "I can't not make movies the way I want to make movies. I don't want to be in a world where I can't make 'The Sixth Sense' anymore. If those ideas come to me, they should come to me."

SPECIAL TO STARS AND STRIPES

Walter Scott's Personality

PARADE

Want the facts? Opinions? Truth? Write Walter Scott, Box 5001, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163-5001. Full name will be used unless otherwise requested. Volume of mail makes personal replies impossible.

QYancy Butler, former star of TV's "Witchblade," was arrested last year for drunk and disorderly conduct and allegedly punching her dad, Joe Butler of the "Lovin' Spoonful." What has happened to her since? — Debra Gallagher, Davis, Fla.

AThe husky-voiced actress, who began her career at age 6 in "Savage Weekend," entered rehab for alcohol addiction. She's out now, living in New York and looking for work. Yancy, 34, is a talented young woman who fell to the same demons as many other showbiz kids, including Drew Barrymore. We wish her a long and successful recovery.



Denise Richards

QHow much weight did Denise Richards gain before the birth of her daughter, Sam? How did she lose it? — Jeanine Fox, Dallas, Texas

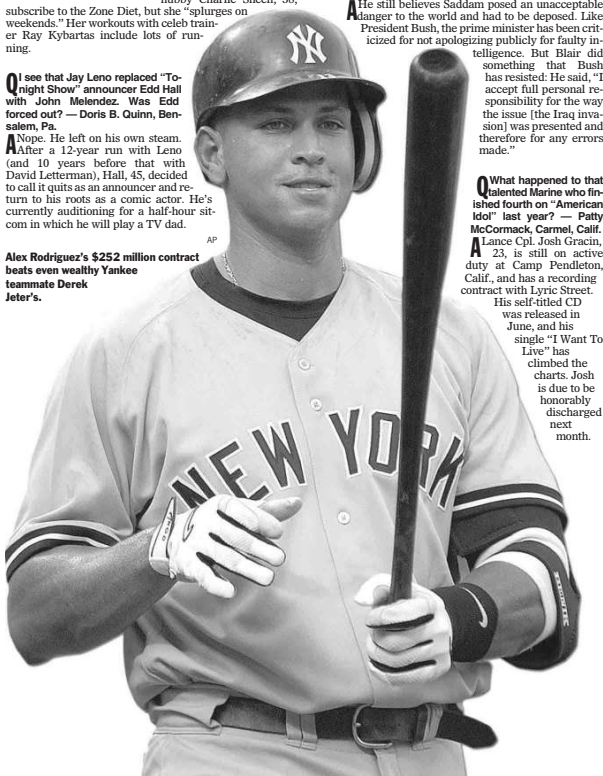
AI stopped weighing myself after I gained 10 pounds," says Richards, 33. "I've been losing it the old-fashioned way — with diet and exercise." On weekdays, the actress and hubby Charlie Sheen, 38,

subscribe to the Zone Diet, but she "splurges on weekends." Her workouts with celeb trainer Ray Kybartas include lots of running.

QI see that Jay Leno replaced "Tonight Show" announcer Edd Hall with John Melendez. Was Edd forced out? — Doris B. Quinn, Bensalem, Pa.

ANope. He left on his own steam. After a 12-year run with Leno (and 10 years before that with David Letterman), Hall, 45, decided to call it quits as an announcer and return to his roots as a comic actor. He's currently auditioning for a half-hour sitcom in which he will play a TV dad.

Alex Rodriguez's \$252 million contract beats even wealthy Yankee teammate Derek Jeter's.



QMy husband and his pal insist that the Yankees' Alex Rodriguez makes more money than his teammate Derek Jeter. I say Jeter makes more. Who's right? — Arline Berburg, Dix Hills, N.Y.

AYour husband and his friend, A-Rod has a 10-year contract worth \$252 million. Jeter's 10-year contract is worth "only" \$189 million.

Q"Titanic" director James Cameron has kept a low profile the past few years. What plans does he have for the future? — Roger Benabe, Groton, Conn.

AThe King of the Box Office (Titanic grossed a record \$1.8 billion) is making an IMAX movie in 3D titled "Aliens of the Deep." After that, Cameron, who just turned 50, plans to direct a sci-fi epic that will be released in 3D (requiring special glasses) as well as a regular version. We're told he developed a passion for stereo imagery because "it's the best way to train people to new worlds and new environments."

QBritain's Prime Minister Tony Blair supported the invasion of Iraq, arguing that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction. Since no such weapons have been found, what does he have to say for himself? — David Grunberg, New York, N.Y.

AHe still believes Saddam posed an unacceptable danger to the world and had to be deposed. Like President Bush, the prime minister has been criticized for not apologizing publicly for faulty intelligence. But Blair did something that Bush has resisted: He said, "I accept full personal responsibility for the way the issue [the Iraq invasion] was presented and therefore for any errors made."

QWhat happened to that talented Marine who finished fourth on "American Idol" last year? — Patty McCormack, Carmel, Calif.

ALance Cpl. Josh Gracin, 23, is still on active duty at Camp Pendleton, Calif., and has a recording contract with Lyric Street. His self-titled CD was released in June, and his single "I Want To Live" has climbed the charts. Josh is due to be honorably discharged next month.



movieweb.com

Sigourney Weaver, known for her role in the "Alien" movies, stars in M. Night Shyamalan's latest thriller, "The Village." Plans for another "Alien" movie starring Weaver are not yet concrete.

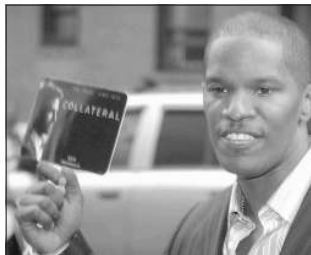
QI heard that Sigourney Weaver is going to make a new "Alien" film. What is its status? — N. Ainley, Kewanee, Ill.

AIt's just a speck on the development horizon. But Sigourney, 54, can be seen in M. Night Shyamalan's latest thriller, "The Village." And in December, she and Jeff Daniels will star as a grieving couple in the indie drama "Imaginary Heroes."

QAfter Ray Charles died, I read conflicting reports on the number of children he fathered. What's the real count? — William Hughes, Bend, Ore.

AAn even dozen. Incidentally, a wars-and-all biopic of the blind singer and musician, starring Jamie Foxx, will premiere at the Toronto Film Festival next month. It opens across the United States in October.

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AP

Actor Jamie Foxx arrives for the "Collateral" film premiere Aug. 4. Foxx will star as Ray Charles in an upcoming biopic about the late singer and musician.

STARS AND STRIPES

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Why sanction gambling?

You don't have to watch AFN for long be-
fore seeing a public service announcement
about the dangers of gambling. However,
overseas on base you can find gambling fa-
cilities that can't be found in the most
parts of the United States. Soldiers who
have never gambled before start gambling
right here on post. These facilities not only
perpetuate gambling problems but also
can actually harm them. You can find peo-
ple gambling on any day of the week —
morning, noon or night.

Why do we have gambling facilities on
post? Just to create new addicts for Gam-
blers Anonymous? The gambling facilities
should be removed and replaced by better,
less detrimental ways to pass a soldier's
time.

Jessica Milton-Rodriguez
Camp George, South Korea

Seeing is believing in Iraq war

This is in response to M.D. Woodbridge's
letter on civilian leaders ("Civilian leaders
failed troops," Aug. 18).

I do not know where you got your infor-
mation but as a Marine who was there
when the war started and went north into
Iraq I find your comments appalling at
best. The military leadership had a plan for
the war and executed it with precision.
Could the plan have been better? Absolute-
ly! But hindsight is always 20/20. All I see
is an attempt to gouge the Republicans by
yet another misguided, misinformed leftist
Democrat. Did you participate in the war?
Did you see how the Iraqi people were liv-
ing? Did you see the torture chambers? Do
you know about the mass graves? How
about the looting, murdering sons of
Saddam? That is not enough reason for us
to go on?

I am so tired of liberal Democrats. They
are the reason so many people offenders,
rapists, murderers and child molesters are
free and walking the streets. They believe
that they can be rehabilitated. This is why
they want the scam at Guantanamo Bay re-
leased. So what if they were terrorists try-
ing to kill Americans? We need to make
sure their rights are not violated, they say.
This is also the reason we need metal de-
tectors in our high schools, as the liberals

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do not want any discipline administered
by educators. Now we have to have armed
security guards in our high schools. Again,
because the left goes too far, all of Ameri-
ca suffers.

I have always believed that when it
came time to vote, you vote for the best
man or woman for the job.

It doesn't matter if that person is a Demo-
crat, Republican or independent. Anyone
who votes strictly for a party has already
lost, as that voter is not open-minded and
will not look at the facts.

A.R. Nichols

Retired master gunnery sergeant, USMC,
Camp Kinser

Security costs us rights

New security measures have been put in
place in New York and other cities be-
cause of information that in two to three
years old. Just because the enemies want
to do something doesn't mean that they
will.

Of course, it is better to be safe than
sorry. If these measures are going to be at-
tacked, then these security measures
should be considered permanent until the
terrorists are defeated, right? If these mea-

sures are temporary, then it will look like
these things were done for political purpo-
ses. That would be wrong.

Sooner or later we Americans are going
to have to decide if we are going to con-
tinue to give up our rights for the appearance
of safety, or go back to the "old days" and
accept the risks of living in a free society.
Benjamin Franklin said, "They who would
give up an essential liberty for temporary
security, deserve neither liberty or security."

I want to live in a free country. I don't
want to live in a police state. Do you?

Chuck Mann

Greensboro, N.C.

Flag policy hurts morale

The Stars and Stripes flew proudly over
our squad tent until the policy citing no
flags will be flown anywhere except at
camp headquarters was instituted.

The policy cites that too many flags are
being flown at Camp Arifjan and surround-
ing camps in Kuwait. The policy covers the
U.S. flag but also is extended to state
and union flags.

I am just a lowly staff sergeant; I there-
fore am not privy to the wisdom of the poli-
cymakers. The very symbol that leads sol-
diers into battle and helped free Iraq, Ku-
wait, Afghanistan and several other coun-
tries around the world, we are told, can no
longer fly above our tents.

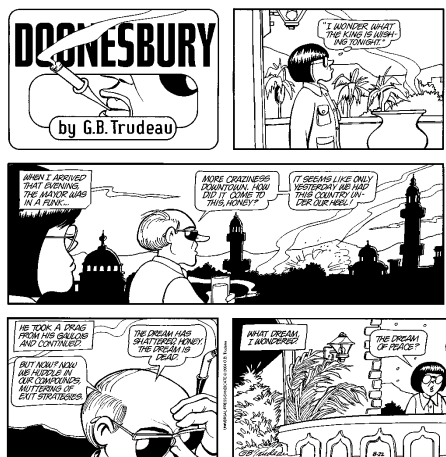
Are those people offended by the ideals
of freedom, for which the U.S. flag repre-
sents and thousands of Americans have
died to preserve? What would those buried
at Arlington, or perhaps at the bottom of
the Pacific, or even our fellow soldiers
who have been wounded in action have to
say about this new policy?

The flag not only honors the United
States, but it also honors those who have
made the ultimate sacrifice for the free-
dom that Old Glory represents.

Should the flag be taken down at night?
Yes. Should a flag tattered and worn be re-
placed and replaced? Definitely. I strongly
disagree with the policy, yet I obey a legal
order, which I believe is bad for morale. I
do not understand the reason for this new
policy, which tells me I am not allowed to
fly my county's flag over our tents.

Staff Sgt. Paul Weber

Camp Arifjan, Kuwait



OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other stateside syndicates.

Old enough to care

The Bellingham (Wash.) Herald

This time of year — with summer doldrums setting in as election season heats up — is a perfect opportunity for parents to speak with their kids on the responsibility that comes with democracy. It is a chance for parents to tell their kids about the issues that matter and stress the value of being informed.

While young teenagers are unable to cast their personal vote in the November election, they should be taught the value of activism and political interaction. Many issues of this year's election, both local and domestic, will directly impact young citizens. Moreover, before the age of 18, a teenager is welcome to become active in the election process by attending forums, writing letters and otherwise promoting a cause.

Teenagers already understand the basic model of democracy, a knowledge that they attained while text messaging their votes to "American Idol." During a single episode of "American Idol" viewers submitted more than 28 million votes — a figure that is triple the number of votes cast by the 18 to 24 age demographic in the 2000 presidential election.

Parents have the primary influence in a young adult's life to reverse this trend. ... It is only a matter of time before these adolescents become the leaders of our country.

Bring on the monitors

The Florida Times-Union, Jacksonville

This year's election will be the first presidential election to be monitored by an international organization.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, based in Vienna, Austria, consists of 55 nations. ... Group teams have observed more than 150 elections around the world and monitored the U.S. midterm elections of 2002.

Democrats who had pushed for the United Nations to monitor the upcoming U.S. elections are elated. Although they didn't get exactly what they wanted, they said the group's involvement will help ward off voter problems Florida and other states experienced during the 2000 presidential election.

Everyone wants elections to be as problem-free as possible. But, anyone who thinks the presence of the OSCE is some sort of guarantee that voters and poll workers will make zero mistakes is likely to be disappointed.

The organization has no authority over the election process or its results. Nonetheless, at the invitation of the State Department, a contingent will arrive next month to plan how the election will be monitored.

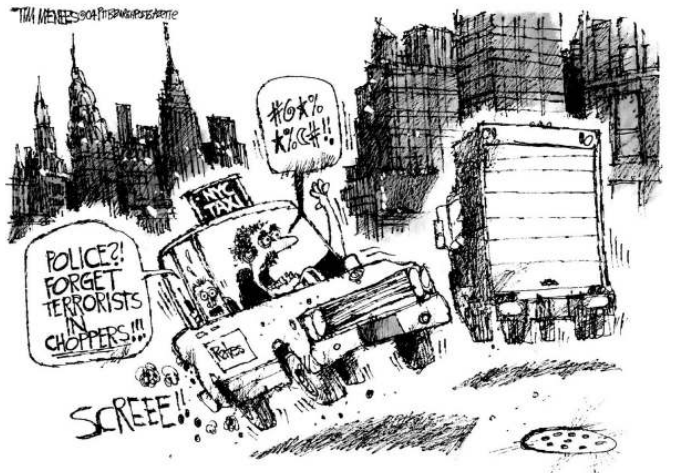
As long as taxpayers aren't paying for the efforts and the monitors are not in the way, it shouldn't matter who monitors U.S. elections. Maybe the foreign contingent will learn some constructive things on how elections should be conducted.

FBT trading on free speech

Times-Union, Albany, N.Y.

Who says the political conventions don't matter any more? The FBI sure is interested in the Republican convention in New York City next week.

The bureau has been particularly aggressive



sive in its questioning and surveillance of people who might be inclined to go to New York City to protest. One FBI employee already has complained that its efforts to obtain information about suspicious activity at other political and anti-war demonstrations make for a very fuzzy distinction between legally protected free speech and illegal activity. The point of the complaint was that the FBI is out of line to suggest that recruitment, organizing and fund-raising by anti-war groups and other political activists were tantamount to violent or otherwise illegal activity.

The arm of the Justice Department that's defending more intense surveillance of convention protesters is known as the Office of Legal Policy. ... When it says, as it did in a memo recently obtained by The New York Times, that any First Amendment concerns raised by the FBI's monitoring of protesters is exceeded by the interests of safety and security, the public has reason to be wary. ...

... To guard against another Sept. 11 shouldn't require a war against all those who still wish to exercise their rights to gather and protest lawfully.

Note to McGreevey: Just go

Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat and Chronicle

Put aside, if you can, New Jersey Gov. James McGreevey's revelation that he is a "gay American" even as he announced his resignation, effective Nov. 15. The governor's sexual orientation, cloaked as it apparently was, isn't the issue.

What is McGreevey's fitness to serve, given what's being learned about the stunning mismanagement that characterized his brief administration. He's a discredited leader who put unqualified cronies and would-be paramours in high-paying state jobs.

He himself contends that he's been blackmailed. And that's just what's known now. There will be more details, and they won't be pretty. ...

McGreevey has made an undeniable mess of things. He can redeem himself in part by stepping down now.

Here's a man, after all, who said he was resigning out of principle and concern for

the people of New Jersey and then threw in condition that would ensure an essentially leaderless, and probably chaotic, state for weeks on end.

McGreevey was right to resign. But he's wrong to linger amid the wreckage.

Charley a test of priorities

Naples (Fla.) Daily News

We are here to help you. Rest assured every effort is being made. We are working around the clock for you.

So say state and federal officials to the hurting and homeless victims of Hurricane Charley. Those residents of Charlotte, Lee and DeSoto counties have just one question: So where's the help? How is that "help" finding us shelter or even something to eat? Or a sanitary toilet or a shower? The summer's most sweltering weather since Charley hit has pushed them to push for answers.

Even those of us who are not severely victimized by Charley grew weary of bureaucrats' promises broadcast over the week-end Press conferences in Tallahassee sounded like lineups of professional circle-tankers. No question brought a straight answer.

Imagine how that fares in the real world — far away from air-conditioned offices, next to the remains of mobile homes played wide open in 90-degree heat. ...

President Bush's surprise inspection of Charley's path of destruction and death tempts one to cast the recovery in a larger, political light: Has U.S. emergency planning become too focused on terrorism, at the expense of natural perils? Here is a chance to prove the skeptics wrong.

Law can't be ignored

The Advocate, Baton Rouge, La.

While it may be painful for the couples involved, the decision of the California Supreme Court to invalidate gay marriages performed in San Francisco this year is the correct one.

The unanimous court ruling enforced the principle that state law should not be set aside by local officials acting on their own.

Mayor Gavin Newsom and other city officials made a statement about their support

for civil marriage for gays and lesbians, a statement that provoked debate on the issue around the world.

But the court ruled unanimously that Newsom and his colleagues contravened state law. A 1977 state law defines marriage as the union of a man and a woman.

The court, in a separate 5-2 decision, voided the licenses issued by San Francisco. The court focused its ruling on the limits of local government authority, and did not resolve whether the California Constitution would permit a same-sex marriage. That question will have to wait as a flurry of lawsuits and countersuits over the gay weddings rises through the state's courts. ...

In the course of the civil-rights movement, which is somewhat comparable to today's debate on gay marriage, local officials sometimes defied what they considered unjust state laws. However, the courts have a duty to insist that laws should stand unless and until repealed, or found unconstitutional by a high court.

That is the proper way to address even the most controversial issue.

Keep the Olympic flame going

Observer-Dispatch, Utica, N.Y.

How nice to see the world at war again. This, however, is a peaceful war — an oxymoron that best describes the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

On the Olympic battlefield are fought some of the world's fiercest battles. But there is no intentional spilling of blood, no loss of life. And while there might be some embarrassment and even a little humility, there is no real shame. Instead, these brave competitors face one another with a special pride of knowing that no matter what the outcome, they are among the very best in the world. ...

Here is a melting pot of cultures and creeds, where skin color goes unchecked across a level playing field in a remarkable demonstration of hard work, determination and perseverance.

It brings cheers. And tears. But in the end there is a luster far brighter than a gold, silver or a bronze. It shines with a brilliance that can cut through a more troubled world, if only we could see the light. We must seize every opportunity to open the door to let it in.

Criminals ante up

CT HARTFORD — Judges told lawmakers at a hearing they're imposing higher bonds because they believe some bondsmen are offering special deals to accused criminals who plan to forfeit their bail and avoid court appearances. Some black and Hispanic lawmakers said they're worried that poor minorities are spending extra time in jail because they can't afford a bondsman's services.

Education grants

DC WASHINGTON — Congress is offering up to five grants of \$1 million to charter schools willing to locate in troubled areas of the city. Census figures show families often move to suburban Virginia or Maryland to find successful schools for their children, said Sen. Mark Landrieu, D-La. She said the goal is to bring more quality schools to D.C.

Rocky Flats dispute

CO DENVER — State and federal agencies are asking to see the sealed files of a grand jury that investigated alleged environmental crimes at the former Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant after an advocacy group said cleanup plans for the site were dangerously incomplete.

The federal Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Energy and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment will request the files from U.S. Attorney John Suthers, spokesmen for the agencies said Thursday.

Sibling summer camp

ME WATERFORD — Maine is known for its many summer camps, but there's only one like Camp to Belong, which reunites siblings who've been separated and placed in foster homes.

The camp, operated by the Maine Health and Human Services Department, features traditional activities like hiking, kayaking and water-skiing. Campers also make scrapbooks, travel pillows and keepsakes for their siblings.

"We feel lucky to have this opportunity," said 16-year-old Ashtia Mercer, who has been living in a foster home in Brownville while her sister, Heather Flagg, 12, lives in Auburn.

Dangerous waste rock

NM QUESTA — Molycorp mining company began stabilizing a giant pile of waste rock from the company's molybdenum mine.

Experts said the waste could threaten Questa if it collapsed in heavy rain. The work was ordered by the state and is slated to be finished next summer. It involves removing 1 million cubic yards of waste from the top of the 450- to 600-foot pile.

Lying lawyer

AL HUNTSVILLE — A judge sentenced a former Franklin County district attorney to six months in federal prison for lying about what prosecutors said was a scheme to extort money from defendants in criminal cases. Prosecu-



utors said John Pilati, 38, recommended reduced charges or lighter sentences for people who agreed to pay his office. The money went into an account used mainly for office expenses but also provided a monthly stipend and new car for Pilati.

Check before you rob

PA MOUNT HOLLY SPRINGS — A man accused of handing a bank teller a note demanding money written on one of his own checks will be tried in Cumberland County court on charges in the Aug. 12 robbery, a district justice ruled.

The teller identified Gerald Rohrer Jr., 32, of Neville, in court Wednesday as the man who handed her the note at the M&T Bank in South Middleton Township and left with \$500.

Police arrested Rohrer after tracing the check and said he confessed, telling investigators he spent most of the money buying crack cocaine.

Tragic accident

TX ANSON — Five people, including three children, were killed after an 18-year-old driver lost control of her car in West Texas and plowed into their van.

Sara Ontiveros was driving south on U.S. 83 at a high rate of



Big 'Fat' dog

Darrell Butler of Eatontown, N.J., poses at the R.U. Grill and Pizza in New Brunswick, N.J. with a "Fat Darrell," a sandwich he created when he was at Rutgers University in 1997.

speed Sunday when she lost control of her car around a curve, said Amy Stewart, a Texas Department of Public Safety communications operator. Ontiveros' car veered into the northbound lane and struck the van.

Two-year-old Jaclyn Soliz, who was riding in Ontiveros' car, was in fair condition Monday at the hospital, Brown said.

Go to class for cash

MO KANSAS CITY — Kids who hit the books this summer in Kansas will soon be able to hit the mall with some extra spending money.

Students who maintained at least a C average in summer school will receive Visa gift cards this week, along with those who rarely or never missed a day of school. The gift cards are valued as high as \$150.

Some education experts are skeptical of the incentive program, but the district has seen summer school enrollment rise, attendance improve and state funding increase.

River recordings

TN MEMPHIS — State transportation officials are mounting 25 video cameras on the two Mississippi River bridges that carry interstate highway traffic between Memphis and Clarksville. The \$5 million project aims to improve safety. At least nine people have been killed on the I-40 bridge since 1997 in crashes involving stalled vehicles.

Primary protest

IN EAST CHICAGO — Mayor Robert Patrick asked the Indiana Supreme Court for a rehearing on its decision ordering a new Democratic mayoral primary. Patrick won the May 2003 primary by 278 votes and then easily won the general election. The Supreme Court on Aug. 6 ordered a new election, saying the primary was rife with corruption.

Screw switch

NV LAS VEGAS — It was not a terrorist plot aimed at frustrating motorists into stomping on their keyless-entry remote devices or ripping car alarms from their vehicles.

It was not sunspots playing havoc with atmospheric conditions, nor Las Vegas' blistering climate nor even little green men from Mars — though some pondered that the failure of the devices that lock and unlock car doors from a distance could have been caused by extraterrestrials.

Nope. The problem turned out to be just a broken switch.

A team including two Michigan-based Ford Motor Co. engineers came to Las Vegas this month to find what caused the domino-size devices used by thousands of people in the area to stop working in February and sporadically since then. They found the source in a faulty radio signal repeater atop a mountain.



Concrete art

Alina Kurkina of Boston works on a chalk art creation on the sidewalk outside FleetBoston Financial headquarters in Boston.



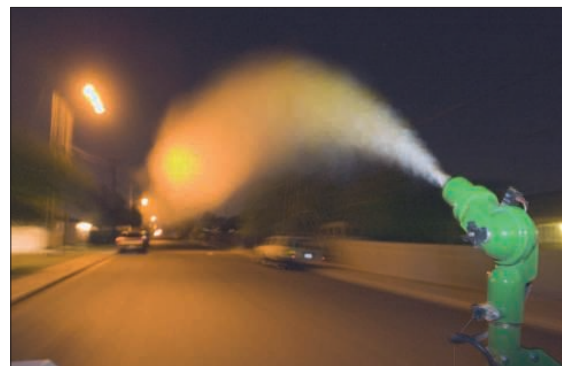
A brain on wheels

Spencer Tofts, 10, rides his bicycle around a cul-de-sac at his subdivision in North Star, Del. By next spring, Spencer will have polished off the highest advanced placement calculus and physics courses through his at-home, long-distance learning program that is headquartered at Johns Hopkins University.



Piggy race

Two pigs make their way around the second corner of the Swifty Swine pig races at the 165th Erie County Fair in Hamburg, N.Y.



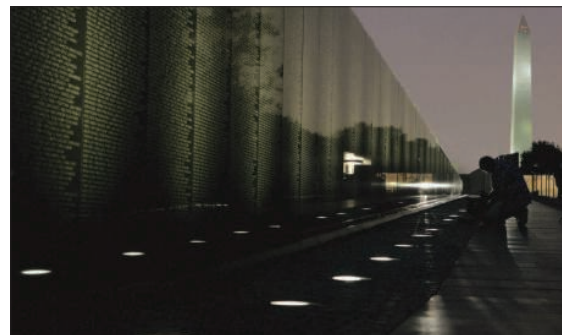
Industrial bug spray A Maricopa County Vector Control truck, driven by Bob Battaglia, sprays for mosquitoes in Glendale, Ariz. Hot and dry, Phoenix seems an unlikely spot for this year's West Nile virus epicenter, yet federal health officials say Arizona is the only state where the mosquito-borne virus is an epidemic.



Friendly fizz Brendan Prost, 7, of St. Louis, Mo., holds a bottle of Fitz's Root Beer for his sister as the family waits in the Capitol Hill office of Sen. Jim Talent, R-Mo.



Eye-in-the-Sea Eye-in-the-Sea, a new camera system, sits on the sea bottom. The camera is part of advanced technology that allows researchers a new and better look at strange and elusive creatures in the deepest reaches of the Gulf of Mexico.



Illuminating heroes A new \$1 million lighting system illuminates the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington. In the background is the Washington Monument.

Record-breaking melon

AK ANCHORAGE — An Alaska gardener has done the seemingly impossible: growing a record-breaking cantaloupe, a fruit that craves heat and foundries in rain.

In a season marked by hotter and drier weather than usual, Scott Robb has produced a 64.8-pound muskmelon — an unofficial world record. He plans to enter the colossal fruit in the Alaska State Fair in Palmer next week.

Growing a mammoth melon in Alaska is virtually unheard of. The current world-record cantaloupe belongs to a grower in the loamy, sun-baked fields of North Carolina. So did the record before that.

The official weight of Robb's melon came in 1.3 pounds over the current record. Guinness World Records still needs to certify it, a process that can take up to six months.

Not-so-funny Silly String

CA LOS ANGELES — Banning Silly String in Times Square on Halloween? It's a proposal that to some seems almost too silly for words.

The City Council considers the issue no laughing matter, however, and on Tuesday gave preliminary approval to an ordinance banning the discharge of the gooey aerosol string in Hollywood on Oct. 31.

"I know we may think this is silly, but it is not silly to the storm drain system of Los Angeles, or to the ultimate destination, the ocean," said Councilman Tom LaBonge, whose district includes Hollywood.

The council voted 10-0 to approve the ordinance, but another vote is required before it can take effect.

Boxing champ stabbed

TX SAN ANTONIO — A boxing champion from South Texas was found stabbed to death on Monday, police said.

Robert Quiroga, 34, was pronounced dead Monday morning at University Hospital in San Antonio.

A passer-by on Interstate 10 flagged down an officer, who found Quiroga lying next to his car, San Antonio police spokesman Sgt. Gabe Trevino said.

Quiroga, nicknamed "Pikin," or little hot pepper, for his scrappiness in the ring, was the first San Antonio boxer to win a major world title.

He beat Juan Polo-Perez in 1990 in England, winning the International Boxing Federation super flyweight title.

Take keys, then arrest

PA ATHENS — Two officers learned a valuable lesson this week: Always take the keys from your patrol car.

Athens Township police officers Thomas J. Vanfleet Jr. and Nathan Ross said they pulled over Jeremy Jacob Friedlander, 21, on Monday night because his Jeep had improperly installed lights and because the license plate was obstructed.

Friedlander told the officers he had a rifle between the front seats and the officers sat him at the rear of the police cruiser while they

searched the Jeep. Friedlander then allegedly jumped through the passenger's door and into the driver's seat, where he started the car and pulled away.

Vanfleet managed to get partly into the vehicle and struggled with Friedlander as he drove off, eventually shifting the car into park and pulling the keys from the ignition.

Phone number mix-up

WV CHARLESTON — About 2,000 Verizon telephone numbers assigned to people who did not want their numbers in phone books were published by accident.

The error, which involved customers in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C., affected only customers who allowed their numbers to be given out by directory assistance operators.

Customers who did not want their numbers available either in phone books or directory assistance were not affected, said Verizon spokesman Harry Mitchell.

The mistake was discovered by a customer who complained.

"After an internal quality review, we discovered that some non-listed phone numbers were printed in our Verizon SuperPages directories and some of the listings were purchased by other directory publishers," Mitchell said.

For all the marble

PA HARRISBURG — It's an auction for all the marble. Tons of marble slabs that formerly adorned the Dauphin County Courthouse will be sold next Friday to the highest bidder.

About 20 pallets are piled waist-high with different sized panels weighing about 400 pounds each. Most were used on a 20-foot wall that enclosed part of the old air conditioning system, and were replaced in a renovation.

"Build a building now and there is no way you could use that type of material" because of the cost, said Edgar Cohen, the county's director of buildings and grounds.

Cohen said the county will keep a few pallets of marble for repairs and auction the rest. He will oversee the bidding.

Energy on the ballot

CO DENVER — Colorado voters will decide this November whether to require local power companies to use renewable energy, state officials said. The measure would require utilities with at least 40,000 customers to produce 10 percent of their electricity from renewable sources by 2015. The change would produce 4,000 jobs and \$1.7 billion in capital investment, an environmental group said.

Prison safety concerns

IA DES MOINES — Lawmakers touring state prison facilities said they're concerned that possible layoffs could affect prison safety. Budget cuts led Gov. Tom Vilsack to approve cutting up to 89 jobs in the corrections department, which includes nine prisons. A final decision on the layoffs is expected soon.

Stories and photos from wire services

YOUR MONEY

It's hard to read 'yes' or 'no' in interview

Susie Besaw, from the book *"The Savvy Sailor's Spouse,"* is new to the military lifestyle but is eager to learn more about how to manage her family and her new lifestyle through the monthly *Family Readiness Group* meetings of her husband, Jake's, new command. Last week Susie set up a job interview.

Jake was already in the shower when I woke up. I had butterflies in my stomach about the upcoming interview. Jake and I talked about my nervousness during breakfast. He even complimented me on my clothes to try to calm me down. Jake never notices what I wear.

I dropped Jake off for work at 7:30 a.m. and had an hour and a half to kill. I didn't want to drive home, so I grabbed a newspaper while I waited.

I arrived a few minutes early for my interview but ended up waiting for Mrs. Thompson. She met me at the exchange and

walked me to Mr. Mickey's office. Mr. Mickey was an older man with thinning, gray hair and glasses. He was sitting at his desk and looked up as I walked in.

"Good morning, Mrs. Besaw," he said, standing up to shake my hand. "Thank you for coming."

I nodded and thanked him for inviting me.

"I guess you already know we are considering you for the inventory computer job," he said.

I nodded again and said, "Yes, sir."

"Your résumé is good," he said. "I particularly am impressed by your efforts to earn a business degree and your previous retail experience."

I started to feel that fuzzy feeling. This interview was going to be a walk in the park.

Mr. Mickey continued, "But I

have three other applicants who want this job. Why should I consider hiring you? What do you think you can offer me that they can't?"

There goes that fuzzy feeling. I spent the next 30 minutes answering questions about inventory management, computer troubleshooting techniques and retail scenarios. Mr. Mickey's questions were tough and he fired them at me in rapid succession. By the end of the interview, I felt totally drained.

"Thanks for coming in today, Mrs. Besaw. You've got some great skills and experience. I'll be meeting with three other candidates. We'll let you know either way in about a week. Good day."

I remember thinking: That wasn't much of an ending. Did I impress him? Do I have a chance?

"Thank you, sir," I replied. "I look forward to a call soon."

Money II.



Ralph Nelson

"We need to discuss your pay and benefits," she replied. "When could you come in?"

"Is tomorrow too soon?"

"Please come see me at 9 a.m. again at the exchange tomorrow," she replied.

I hung up the phone and sat down. I couldn't believe it. I had a job again, and that felt good.

Jake and I were going to celebrate tonight!

Next week Susie and Jake have dinner at the Warrens.

Copies of Ralph Nelson's books — "The Savvy Sailor" and "The Savvy Naval Officer" — can be purchased by writing to: Master Plan Inc., 500 N. Washington St., P.O. Box 10071, Rockville, MD 20849 or online at www.savvyonweb.com. This article is written and the book is sold with the understanding that neither the author nor Stars and Stripes are professional financial advisers. If you need advice, please seek professional assistance. The author specifically disclaims any liability, loss or risk — personal or otherwise — incurred as a consequence, directly or indirectly, of using or applying any of the information contained in this article or the book. E-mail for feedback is: finance@stripes.osd.mil



Michael Phelps of the United States swims to a gold medal in the 400 meter individual medley at the Olympic Aquatic Centre during the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens on Aug. 14. Just minutes after the event, MSNBC sent the text message: "Michael Phelps wins gold in 400 individual medley and sets world record."

Online Olympics coverage less than expected

BY ANICK JESDANUN

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Though NBC is blanketing seven networks with 1,210 hours of Olympics coverage, there's this pesky, bill-paying task called work that keeps me from fully enjoying the televised competition.

I figured the Web sites that cover the games might compensate.

How wrong I was. Even with the promise of video for the first time, the online coverage has been unsatisfying.

The Internet is good for getting results and learning the mechanics of obscure sports, but it fails to capture the full glory and personalities that make the Olympics

so special.

Only through TV did I get a sense of history in the making as shotputters competed on the site of the ancient Olympics. There is no stadium; spectators watched from a grassy hill.

Best I be considered a wimp, let me first mention a few things I liked online: NBC's Olympics site, NBCOlympics.com, has real-time coverage of many events. That doesn't mean live video, but rather scores, stats and written play-by-play descriptions updated every 30 seconds or so. Checking in on men's basketball, I

learned Puerto Rico's Jose Ortiz had just made a basket as Angola led 66-63 with four seconds left in the third quarter (Pu-

erto Rico went on to win 83-80).

■ The major sites have complete results, no matter how obscure the event or athlete's home country, though I long for an easier way to search for all finishers from, say, my parents' native Thailand.

■ Gone are the days when broadcasters avoided telling viewers the outcome in hopes they'll come back to watch during prime time. Just minutes after a swimming event, my cell phone displayed a text message from MSNBC: "Michael Phelps wins gold in 400 individual medley and sets world record."

■ NBC has good animation explaining the basics of each sport. ESPN.com has similar features, along with informative graph-

ics on venues and each nation competing.

At the sites I visited — NBC Olympics, ESPN, SportsLine, USA Today, BBC and the official Athens Games site — I found plenty of background on all sports and key athletes.

But American sites are too U.S.-centric in their ongoing coverage. It wasn't enough that Australian Ian Thorpe won the 200m freestyle in swimming; it was made clear Phelps "only" got a bronze.

The official Olympics site, at Athens2004.com, is best at giving all countries and all sports their due. But early in the week, the site lagged others in giving timely results and medal counts. It got better, but NBC Olympics was best.

SEE OLYMPICS ON PAGE 27

Product review

YOUR MONEY

Bankruptcy no benefit to credit

Q I am an attorney who has helped people settle debt for less than the full amount they owed because they wanted to avoid bankruptcy. I and the credit card companies have warned these clients that their credit reports would be hurt, but I also thought that if they waited long enough, after some time, to have the debt greatly reduced without a bankruptcy. Is that correct? Is it also true that some people's credit is so bad that bankruptcy helps or could soon help their credit? If that's not true, why do people receive so many credit card offers after they file for bankruptcy?

A Let's start with your last question first. Some credit card issuers are willing to take a risk on recent bankruptcy filers in part because the companies know these people can't seek another Chapter 7 bankruptcy for at least six years. But these "subprime" credit card issuers also know that many of those people are desperate for new credit and will pay outrageously high interest rates to get it.

Bankruptcy can't help your

credit score, the three-digit number lenders use to help gauge your credit-worthiness. In fact, bankruptcy is the single worst thing you can do to your score, said Craig Watts, spokesman for Fair Isaac Corp., the company behind the FICO credit scoring system.

What bankruptcy does do is wipe out most unsecured debt, which can help people get a fresh start. Instead of struggling to pay their old bills and paying late, if at all, they can start paying any new bills on time and then begin repairing their credit.

In as little as two years after their cases close, those who file for Federal Housing Administration mortgage at reasonable rates; within about four years, some report that their credit scores have recovered to near-prime levels.

Obviously, bankruptcy isn't necessarily a credit killer for those who learn their lesson and get their financial acts together.

Money Talk



Liz Pulliam Weston

As an alternative to bankruptcy, meanwhile, debt settlement has its problems. Some lenders will avoid people who have settlements on their credit reports, just as they avoid those with a bankruptcy. (A settlement is a negative mark that can stay on a credit report for seven years, as opposed to 10 for a bankruptcy.) Settlements also have a devastating effect on credit scores—usually not as bad as a bankruptcy, but serious nonetheless.

Unfortunately, some debt-settlement firms don't make this clear to their clients, and others are outright frauds—fly-by-nights that simply disappear with the fat upfront fees they charge. Anyone considering this option needs to carefully research the firm before handing over any cash.

Given the risks and the repercussions, debt settlement is a terrible option for people who can afford to pay their bills.

For those who can't, debt settle-

ment might have a somewhat less debilitating effect on their credit than bankruptcy. But others in a tight spot might find the money they would use for a settlement could help them recover faster after a bankruptcy, and opt to file rather than settle.

Q Recently you discussed ways to prevent telemarketing calls, junk mail and spam. I wanted to share something my roommate did our sophomore year.

A well-known long-distance company called us five times in three days. The final time my roommate decided enough was enough, so he managed to keep the call on the phone for about 90 minutes by asking entirely legitimate questions about rate plans, price comparisons and the like. He asked very specific questions that made him seem genuinely interested in the service while forcing the caller to re-search the answers. Anyway, it worked because the phone carrier never called again.

If you waste their time, it seems they are more than happy to take your phone number off their calling lists.

A For those of us who aren't in college—and who don't have 90 minutes to torture a telemarketer—signing up for the federal do-not-call list is probably the better option.

Sign up at www.donotcall.gov, or by calling (888) 382-1222 from the phone you wish to register. (The hearing impaired who use TTY can call (866) 290-4236.)

Liz Pulliam Weston is a contributor to the Los Angeles Times. Questions can be sent to her at asklizweston@hotmail.com or mailed to her in care of Money Talk, Business Section, The Los Angeles Times, 200 W. 1st St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Olympics: Web info a letdown

OLYMPICS, FROM PAGE 26

I could have used a one-stop page with the day's developments at a glance, no matter how obscure the sport. The closest I got was an independent Web journal, at liveroom.org, which also has a "USA Today's Athens Watch, even if it is U.S.-centric."

Athens2004blog.blogspot.com, meanwhile, is a spectator's humorous take and features a contest for readers to guess how much snacks at the venues cost.

I would have wanted to hear more from athletes and coaches directly, but the International Olympic Committee has strict restrictions on that. The only account I saw was from a Duke alumna, pole vaulter Julia Schwartz, on her alma mater's Web site, dukemagazine.duke.edu.

As for video, I got highly frustrated. From New York, I was blocked from live coverage offered by several European Web sites because broadcast rights are sold by territory.

I had to settle for NBC's delayed highlights offerings.

But I had a problem: You need a credit card from NBC advertiser Visa to see the video, even though there's no charge for it. It's not my fault my bank switched years ago to MasterCard, which the site gladly accepts for purchasing Olympic hats and other souvenirs.

No Visa card, no video. So in the video department about the best I could get was a "sticker figure" cartoon at AtomFilms.com. I recommend it for a few good laughs.

THURSDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY									
INDEXES									
52-week	High	Low	Change	Net	%	YTD	52-week	High	Low
High	Low	Change	Net	%	YTD	High	Low	Change	Net
10,533.61	10,533.61	10,533.61	10,533.61	10,533.61	10,533.61	10,533.61	10,533.61	10,533.61	10,533.61
3,212.45	2,995.58	Down	Jones Industrials	1,052.43	-42.4	-1.36	+1.51	+13.83	
2,682.77	2,624.84	Down	Jones Utilities	286.18	-2.07	-0.77	+7.22	+19.59	
2,786.12	2,533.15	Down	NASDAQ Composite	5,722.63	-14.19	-0.22	-1.82	+12.85	
1,748.81	1,756.65	Down	Amex Index	1,271.95	+5.29	+0.43	+1.21	+25.44	
2,160.02	1,766.93	Down	Nasdaq Composite	1,813.89	-14.69	-0.8	-5.16	+2.38	
1,163.23	983.57	Down	S&P 500	1,091.23	-1.94	-0.36	-1.86	+0.77	
1,018.14	491.39	Down	S&P MidCap	565.49	-0.47	-0.17	+1.83	+10.02	
6,662.42	471.92	Down	Russell 2000	572.44	-4.17	-0.77	-1.59	+8.61	
11,371.14	5,515.91	Down	DJ Wilshire 5000	14,577.34	-42.31	-0.40	-2.36	+8.81	

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11,371.14	5,515.91	Down	DJ Wilshire 5000	14,577.34	-42.31	-0.40	-2.36	+8.81	

EXCHANGE RATES									
Military rates									
Japanese yen (Aug. 21)	107.90								
S. Korean won (Aug. 20)	1,127.00								
Euro (Aug. 21)	\$1.2679								
British pound	\$1.85								
Commercial rates									
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770								
British pound	\$1.85								
Canada (dollar)	0.6191								
Denmark (krone)	6.91								
Egypt (pound)	1.2767								
Euro	1.2679								
Hong Kong (dollar)	0.7790								
Hungary (Forint)	206.48								
Indonesia (Rupiah)	1,915								
Israel (Shekel)	4.5372								
Japan (Yen)	107.90								
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2947								
Norway (Krone)	6.7109								
Philippines (Peso)	55.77								
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	1.7501								
Singapore (Dollar)	1.7079								
S. Korea (Won)	1,127.00								
Switzerland (Franc)	1.2424								
Taiwan (Dollar)	1.4705								
Turkey (Lira)	1.4705								
U.S. dollar	1.00								

EXCHANGE RATES									
Military rates									
Japanese yen (Aug. 21)	107.90								
S. Korean won (Aug. 20)	1,127.00								
Euro (Aug. 21)	\$1.2679								
British pound	\$1.85								
Commercial rates									
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770								
British pound	\$1.85								
Canada (dollar)	0.6191								
Denmark (krone)	6.91								
Egypt (pound)	1.2767								
Euro	1.2679								
Hong Kong (dollar)	0.7790								
Hungary (Forint)	206.48								
Indonesia (Rupiah)	1,915								
Israel (Shekel)	4.5372								
Japan (Yen)	107.90								
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2947								
Norway (Krone)	6.7109								
Philippines (Peso)	55.77								
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	1.7501								
Singapore (Dollar)	1.7079								
S. Korea (Won)	1,127.00								
Switzerland (Franc)	1.2424								
Taiwan (Dollar)	1.4705								
Turkey (Lira)	1.4705								
U.S. dollar	1.00								

EXCHANGE RATES									
Military rates									
Japanese yen (Aug. 21)	107.90								
S. Korean won (Aug. 20)	1,127.00								
Euro (Aug. 21)	\$1.2679								
British pound	\$1.85								
Commercial rates									
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770								
British pound	\$1.85								
Canada (dollar)	0.6191								
Denmark (krone)	6.91								
Egypt (pound)	1.2767								
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Singapore (Dollar)	1.7079								
S. Korea (Won)	1,127.00								
Switzerland (Franc)	1.2424								

Sunday Horoscope

The sun transiting into the nurturing sign of Virgo marks the beginning of an extremely productive cycle. Virgo is an expert at correcting, improving and adding any elements that will ultimately contribute to growth. This evergreen energy can be directed toward a special project, a relationship or an area of your life that needs attention.

Joyce Jilison

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

August 22: Your imaginative approach to relationships gives you many wonderful memories this year. You're enriched by what people bring to your life in the next seven weeks. When you're not expecting a thing, you are given much. Finances are abundant as a direct result of a decision you make in December. Love signs are Aquarius and Scorpio.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Loved ones need to shine and may come to eclipse your light for a short while. Your graciousness will be long remembered. It's not a good day to use your cell phone while driving — in fact, maybe it's never a good day for that.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Your luck is augmented by everything you need and absorb. A friend who has known you forever will remind you of past lessons — as if you needed someone to do that. As if you needed someone to do that. As if you needed someone to do that.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

Most of your day is spent catering to the needs of your loved ones, but that's also where your satisfaction is greatest. Tonight, do what will awaken your senses. Knowing your limits will allow you to make the most of a situation.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

You've got creative energy to burn off and could produce something outstanding while merely fooling around.

People around you add to the magic. They feel free to express themselves, and you get the benefit of that mood.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Old-fashioned values and manners are seriously underrated by most people, but not you. Your attention

to social rules may seem to go unappreciated, but truly class people take note. You go down on an "A" list of sorts.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You're sensitive to subtle energy shifts, which will help you navigate family complications. You could very well be the one who makes everyone get along. The tone you set is infectious. A Capricorn romance is all consuming. **LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23):** Think before spending, and ignore pressure that salesmen and spouses may put on you. That goes away, but debt will linger on. Singles, don't move in with aggressive energy. Give olive branches space, and they'll return faster.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Your affinity for people who think like you is matched only by your fascination with people who don't. Welcome diversity in all areas of your life. The more influences you have, the better you'll be able to express yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You're in a position to critique and may even be asked or paid to give your opinion. But just when you judge what is outside yourself, you might see it reflected inside. Apply your moral compass to only your own situation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

There will be no shortage of clients in which to test your social (or possibly psychic) skills. The jovial atmosphere includes a bit of mischief that's not to be taken too seriously. Be a good sport. Tonight, be quick to forgive.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You're the ray of hope! You can change people's thinking by painting a picture of a better future. It's OK for you to want nice things and a luxurious environment. Don't be ashamed of your outstanding taste.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

You're fearless and could be the perfect "guinea pig" for trying a new technique or method. Many prospects don't help you as much as one got one will. Sometimes, limitations can be more liberating than wide-open options.

Creators Syndicate

'Bona fides' is deceiving

Shouldn't "bona fides" be a plural word, and appear with a plural verb?

"Bona fides" looks like a plural word in English, since it ends with that "s," but in Latin there is no such thing as a single "bona fides." Rather, "bona fides" is a singular noun that literally translates as "good faith."

When "bona fides" entered English in the mid-17th century, it at first stayed very close to its Latin use — it was found mostly in legal contexts, and it meant "honesty or lawfulness of purpose" as well as "good faith, or sincerity," just as it did in Latin. It also retained its singular construction. Some-

one using this original sense might speak of "a claimant whose bona fides is unquestionable," for example.

However, in the 20th century, use of "bona fides" began to widen, and it began to appear with a plural verb in certain contexts. For example, a sentence such as "the informant's bona fides were ascertained" is now possible. So the short answer is that while "bona fides" isn't necessarily a word that "should be" treated as a plural, it's certainly possible and acceptable to do so.

This column was prepared by the editors of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition, and sent questions to Merriam-Webster's Wordwatch, P.O. Box 477, Federal St., Springfield, Mass. 01102.

Child's friend makes impolite remarks about other people

Dear Abby: I have a friend I'll call Cameron. Cameron is a very judgmental person. My mom watches her every summer.

Mom doesn't like the fact that Cameron is always saying how dumb and stupid people look as she sees them pass by. Mom is going to talk to her and tell her to straighten up, or she can't come over next summer. If that happens, I know Cameron will ask me why she can't. What do I tell her? If I tell her the truth, I'm afraid she'll be mad at me and not want to be my friend anymore. I don't want to lose my friendship with her because she makes me laugh.

— Worried in Denver

Dear Worried: When your mother talks to your friend about her behavior, she'll be doing the girl a favor. If Cameron feels the need to ask you why she's no longer welcome, you should tell her the truth. Her behavior is unacceptable. People do not act that way usually do it because they think it makes them look superior. In actuality, it's a tip-off that the person is insecure.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Seeking Acceptance in Iraq," the soldier whose father treats him as "dead" because they disagree about the war. As president of the national veterans' organization VietNam, I was at first appalled that a fellow Vietnam veteran would do the very thing to his own son that much of the country did to us when we returned home. However, there may be more going on.

This officer's father may be dealing silently with some of the baggage of his own service, and those feelings are now being brought to the surface because of his son's choices. I hope and pray that someday soon, this father will be able to put his arms around his son and tell him he is proud of him and "welcome home." There will be plenty of time for history to sort out the politics of this current war. Right now, we need to do everything we can to support our troops.

— Rich Sanders (vietnam.com) **Dear Rich Sanders:** We were heartened by the outpouring of mail for this officer. Our readers overwhelmingly wanted him to know that he is in their thoughts and prayers. Read on for a sampling:

Dear Abby



Dear Abby: After my separation and divorce, I had a relationship with a man I'll call "Austin." He was in financial trouble and asked me to take out a loan of \$15,000 for him, since I have good credit. He claimed that if he could get himself "straightened out," we could have a brighter future.

After two years of emotional abuse, I finally ended the relationship with Austin. It has been several months, and he is consistently late making the monthly payments.

Last month, he told me that since I won't resume the relationship, I can go to hell and said not to call him again.

I am now stuck with the burden of paying off the loan. Any ideas how to persuade Austin to fulfill his responsibility?

— Feels Like a Sucker, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Dear Feels: Unless his name is on the loan document, the financial responsibility is all yours. Consider what happened to be very expensive tuition in the school of experience. I'll bet you don't make that mistake again.

Readers respond to GI in Iraq who was disabused by father

Annie's Mailbox



From the Midwest: How sad that this father has chosen to cut communication and love from his son when he needs it more than ever.

Dad should be proud that his son follows through with his commitments, and demonstrates great loyalty, determination and dedication. Our children make choices with the best of intentions, and we teach them. That father should support his son's dedication, even if he does not support the war. To this soldier, I say, stay strong and come home alive. You have family around the world, not just at home.

Denver: What would be his father's biggest regret if he got the worst news any parent could receive? That his last words to his son were, "You're dead to me." Those are powerful words, especially when it's too late to take them back. It's much harder to ask for forgiveness standing at your son's grave than it is when he's standing in front of you.

St. Paul, Minn.: Your response seems to side more with the son than the father. This father has recognized that President Bush is exceedingly wrong about weapons of mass destruction to justify the Iraq war.

Dad does not have to compro-

Dear Abby: I am a 33-year-old mother of two. I have been in a relationship with a married 41-year-old man for four years.

About a year and a half ago, he filed for divorce and had her served with the papers. She signed them, but he signed in the wrong spot. He went back to his lawyer's office and got new papers for her to sign, but for some reason he has not pursued it.

The lawyer's office finally sent a letter saying that they're going to dismiss the case if he doesn't come back and file to have her served by the constable. I told him I would give him the \$350, but he hasn't taken me up on my offer. What do you think I should do?

— Sick and Tired of Being Sick and Tired

Dear S and T: For openness, forget about marrying him.

He's still married. The problem isn't that a man has a lack of money; what he lacks is motivation.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.usps.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

GI in Iraq: Readers respond to GI in Iraq who was disabused by father

mise his convictions about this evil war.

He should be praised for his patriotic stand against the war, and his son should recognize the true bravery of his father.

Illinois: I am absolutely dumbfounded that a man who served in Vietnam could react so poorly to his own son. I thought we learned that you don't have to agree with the war to support those brave men and women who fight on our behalf. To all those who serve, please come home safely. **Florida:** Whether or not the war was a mistake, the army officer is an honorable man, doing his duty and living his life the best way he can. I would be glad to be a substitute father and give him all the emotional support he needs.

— Lt. Col.

Air Force Reserves, Ret.

Connecticut: My daughter is a member of the Army National Guard, and she just returned home from a year's deployment in Iraq. She told me that what kept her morale up was the support she received from her family and friends. As much as I didn't want my daughter to go, it isn't about me. It's not about me.

Annie's Mailbox: I'm Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime writers of Annie's Mailbox. Please e-mail your questions to annie@mailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate

IN RELIGION

Military's Wiccans seek understanding

BY RANDY MYERS
Knight Ridder Newspapers

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. — After U.S. military personnel pulled American Wiccan servicemen in Iraq with bottles and rocks as they worshipped in a sacred circle, the Pentagon turned to Patrick McCollum of Moraga, Calif. The chaplain, a national expert on the Earth-based Wicca religion, conjured a little Wicca 101 for the troops.

Most Americans glean their Wicca knowledge from TV's "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" or "Charmed," with their witches and curses, good and evil. Wiccan worship focuses on respect for the Earth and its inhabitants with a "do no harm" credo.

"Education is the single most powerful tool," in dealing with misunderstandings in the military, McCollum said.

Wiccans represent a small fraction of the military, but the Pentagon wants to accommodate their faith. The military trains chaplains to meet the religious needs of all servicemen without compromising their own religious beliefs, said Col. Richard Hum, executive director of the Armed Forces Chaplains Board at the Defense Department.

That's where McCollum and a few other Wiccans come in as on-call Pentagon advisers. The military has sought his advice three or four times since he started after Sept. 11, 2001, he said.



DEBORAH COLEMAN,
CONTRA COSTA TIMES/STRT

Retired Sgt. and Wiccan lay leader Loy Pournier listens to Wiccans talk about their faith during a meeting at Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, Calif. Wiccan ritual objects are in the foreground.

WICCAN SYMBOLS

■ **The pentacle:** The five-pointed star in a circle is the symbol most often associated with Wicca. Four points represent elements, the topmost the spirit.

■ **The circle:** A sacred space that can be drawn nearly anywhere. It keeps out unwelcome energy and represents the equivalent of a congregation.

■ **The coven:** A group of Wiccans who regularly meet to participate in the rites, magic, study and celebration of the religion. Not all Wiccans are part of a coven, some practice by themselves.

An advisory team became a Pentagon priority when Wiccan military personnel reported problems while conducting rites and religious activities. The Wiccans said that some chaplains were trying to convert them and that commanding officers made it difficult to practice, McCollum said.

Wiccans also have been pressuring the Department of Veterans Affairs to allow a Wiccan emblem, most likely the pentacle, for armed forces burial headstones. Mike Nacinick of Veterans Affairs said the department authorizes 38 emblems, including one for atheists, but none for Wiccans.

An extensive Internet network links McCollum with the faithful.

Wiccans exist in nearly all military branches, some in the top ranks, he said.

The Air Force attracts the most, with 1,552 of enlisted personnel identifying themselves as Wiccans, said Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke, a Defense Department spokeswoman. The Marine Corps has 68. The Navy doesn't report numbers, and the Army lists no Wiccans, she said.

The Air Force recognized the religious categories of Pagan, Gardnerian Wiccan, Seax Wiccan, Dianic Wiccan, Shaman and Druid in 2000. Many bases now have circles and hold services. Dog tags also can identify a servicemember as Wiccan.

Wiccans had their first chaplain service in 1997 at the Army's Fort Hood in Texas.

At Travis, Wiccan lay leader and high priest Loy Pournier estimates that 60 Wiccans are among the nearly 11,300 enlisted men and women there.

Pournier began holding weekly informational meetings at Travis in 1996. The recently retired technical sergeant is lay leader for the roughly 15-member Travis Earth Circle. They observe eight sacred cycles of the year, called sabbats.

Practicing Wicca overseas can be challenging, especially in the desert, Pournier said. The Air Force sent him to Qatar on the Persian Gulf days after the Sept. 11 attacks. He used birthday candles and his canteen cup for religious rites.

Cave in Israel may be big biblical find

BY KARIN LAUB
The Associated Press

KIBBUTZ TZUBA, Israel — Archaeologists think they've found a cave where John the Baptist baptized many of his followers — basing their theory on thousands of shards from ritual jugs, a stone used for foot cleansing and wall carvings telling the story of the biblical preacher.

Only a few artifacts linked to New Testament figures have ever been found in the Holy Land, and the cave is potentially a major discovery in biblical archaeology.

"John the Baptist, who was just a figure from the Gospels, now comes to life," British archaeologist Shimon Gibson said during an exclusive tour of the cave given to The Associated Press.

But some scholars said Gibson's finds aren't enough to support his theory, and one colleague said that short of an inscription with John's name in the cave, there could never be conclusive proof of his presence there.

John, a distant relative of Jesus — their mothers were kin, according to the Bible — was a fierce preacher with a message of repentance and a considerable following.

Tradition says he was born in the village of Ein Karem, which today is part of modern Jerusalem. Just 2.5 miles away, on the land of Kibbutz Tzuba, a communal farm, the cave lies hidden in a limestone hill — 24 yards long, four yards deep and four yards wide.

It was carved by the Israelites in the Iron Age, sometime between 800 B.C. and 500 B.C., the scientists said. It apparently was used from the start as a ritual immersion pool, preceding the Jewish tradition of the ritual bath.

Over the centuries, the cave filled with mud and sediment, leaving only a tiny opening that was hidden by trees and bushes.

Yet in recent years, it had occasional visitors — Reuven Kalifon, an immigrant from Cleveland who teaches Hebrew at the kibbutz, took his students spelunking.

They would crawl through the narrow slit at the mouth of the cave, all the way to the back wall, though they saw nothing but dirt and walls. In December 1999, Kalifon asked Gibson, a friend, to take a closer look.

Gibson, who has excavated in the Holy Land for



Israeli archaeological site manager Rafi Lewis stands with his foot on a ceremonial stone in the cave where the excavation team believes John the Baptist anointed many of his disciples, on the Kibbutz Tzuba, near Jerusalem, on Tuesday.

more than 30 years, moved a few boulders near the walls and laid bare a crude carving of a head. Excited, he organized a full-fledged excavation.

Over the next five years, Gibson and his team, including volunteers from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, cleared out layers of soil, picking up about 250,000 shards from small jugs apparently used in purification rituals.

Crude images were carved on the walls, near the ceiling, and Gibson said they tell the story of John's life.

But the images are from the Byzantine era, apparently carved by monks who associated the site with John, following local folklore, Gibson and Bible scholar James Tabor said.

"Unfortunately, we didn't find any inscriptions" that would conclusively link the cave to John, said Tabor, from the University of North Carolina.

Stephen Pfann, a Bible scholar and president of the University of the Holy Land in Jerusalem, said Gibson has provided a plausible explanation for the unusual finds, but further study is needed.

Switchfoot brings its music into mainstream

BY BRIAN BOWERS
Stars and Stripes

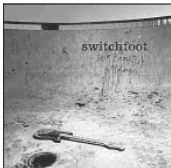
Switchfoot has taken a huge step into the mainstream. The band's "The Beautiful Letdown" is currently at 16 and climbing on Billboard's album chart — not bad for a CD that's been out for a year and half. The group also has released the DVD "Switchfoot live in San Diego."

These four guys from San Diego offer a hard-rocking look at our condition — explosively sinful, according to "Amunition" — and the solution — outlined in the title track and "Redemption." The title track describes the beauty of the moment when life lets you down and you realize that only God can complete you. "Redemption" is a fast-paced call to God for salvation.

Frontman and primary songwriter Jon Foreman does an excellent job of outlining life's questions and conflicts and offers hope. He weaves a biblical worldview and images into the lyrics — always pointing to something higher. It's a key difference between Switchfoot and much of the other music available in the mainstream market.

But good thoughts don't sell a lot of CDs. Good music does. And "The Beautiful Letdown" is packed with powerful guitar-driven rock, sprinkled with some slower, heartfelt melodies. "Meant To Live" blasts the message that we are meant for more than this world has to offer. "Gone" is an oratory look at the ephemeral nature of looks, wealth and fame. And "On Fire" is an introspective look at feeling God's presence.

It's music that earned Switchfoot three Dove awards from the



"The Beautiful Letdown"

Gospel Music Association earlier this year, including best rock/contemporary album.

Because of its recent success, the band is setting into the role of "crossover" act.

That's prompted a bit of edginess about the band being linked too closely to the Christian music industry, which might reduce mainstream appeal.

There have been the obligatory "we're not a Christian band — just a band of Christians" comments, a la Lifehouse. And the stance is also evident on the new DVD. The interviews and "teen-songs" comments deliver the band's message of hope, but they don't clearly tell what that hope involves. Those familiar with biblical imagery will figure it out quickly from the song lyrics. Those who aren't as familiar might wonder whether Switchfoot is referring to Christ or joining Madonna in dabbling in Kabbalah.

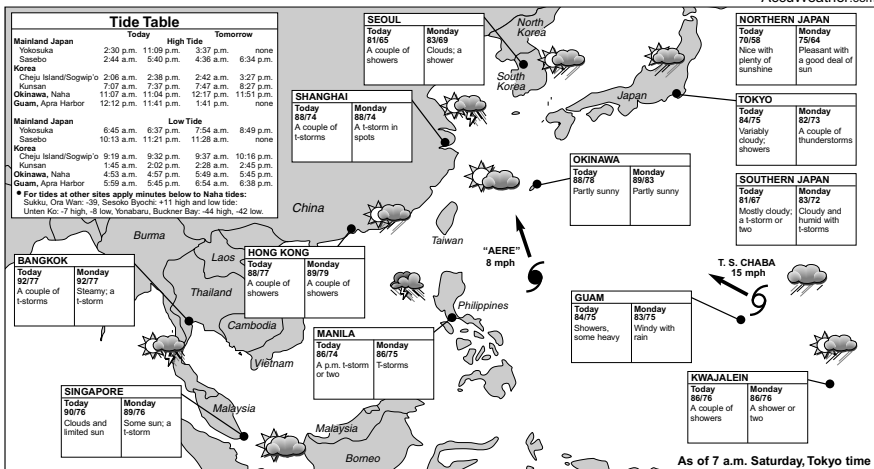
On the Web: www.switchfoot.com

Today's Praise is a roundup of news and lyrics from the contemporary Christian music industry. It appears twice a month on the Section page.

E-mail Brian Bowers at: bowers@stripes.osd.mil

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The Pacific Forecast



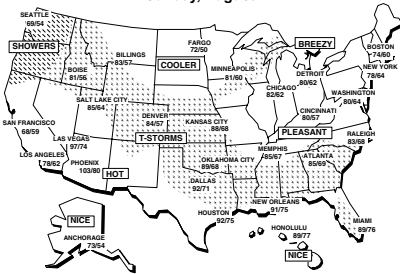
Extended Forecasts

TOKYO Tuesday: Thunderstorms, high 85, low 74. Wednesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 89, low 79.	KADENA Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 92, low 83. Wednesday: Thunderstorms, high 93, low 82.	SEUL Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 83, low 68. Wednesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 83, low 68.	MANILA Tuesday: Thunderstorms, high 87, low 75. Wednesday: Thunderstorms, high 87, low 72.	HAGATNA Tuesday: Showers, high 84, low 75. Wednesday: Showers, high 84, low 76.
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Friday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	80/60	Los Angeles	80/62
Amarillo	73/58	Little Rock	83/68
Anchorage	74/56	Louisville	78/64
Asheville	84/66	Miami	90/77
Baltimore	92/74	Milwaukee	70/51
Birmingham	88/72	Nashville	81/67
Bismark	71/43	New York	88/74
Boise	90/63	Omaha	78/55
Boston	87/69	Orlando	93/75
Brownsville	97/80	Philadelphia	93/74
Buffalo	73/56	Phoenix	101/80
Burlington	80/58	Pittsburgh	82/62
Charleston, SC	92/76	Portland, OR	86/62
Charlotte	90/72	Portland, ME	79/66
Cleveland	69/55	Salt Lake City	84/62
Columbus, OH	79/59	St. Louis	76/61
Duluth	61/40	San Antonio	99/77
El Paso	92/67	San Diego	74/57
Hartford	88/69	San Juan	90/77
Helena	85/58	Tampa	92/77
Indianapolis	74/57	Tulsa	78/63
Jacksonville	93/74	Washington	93/75
Kansas City	76/58	Wichita	79/59

Sunday, August 22



U.S. Extended Forecast

A storm system moving into the Northwest will bring some showers and thunderstorms to that region on Sunday. Another storm system will be the source for some shower and thunderstorm development across the Great Lakes. More showers and thunderstorms will develop in the Southeast on Sunday as a cold front moves through the region. A shower or thunderstorm will also occur in portions of the Rocky Mountain region, mainly Sunday afternoon. More showers are possible in the Pacific Northwest on Monday. Showers and thunderstorms could also develop along a stationary front mainly during the afternoon in the Southeast and Great Plains. Showers are possible in the Pacific Northwest on Tuesday.

Sunday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	92/77	Iwakuni	78/66
Beijing	81/62	Kadena AB	89/78
Camp Casey	79/63	Kunsan AB	80/66
Christchurch	54/36	Kwajalein	86/76
Diego Garcia	82/74	Manila	88/74
Hagatna	84/75	Masawa AB	76/59
Hanoi	90/78	Osan	80/66
Hong Kong	88/77	Perth	64/48
Honolulu	89/77	Pusan	78/67

Sunday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Acapulco	92/77	Budapest	72/50
Athens	94/72	Buenos Aires	57/41
Auckland	57/45	Cairo	101/72
Baghdad	113/81	Cancun	86/73
Barbados	89/74	Cape Town	69/45
Barcelona	75/64	Geneva	70/61
Berlin	65/51	Istanbul	90/70
Bermuda	85/72	Jerusalem	91/63
Brussels	65/45	Johannesburg	75/53
		Moscow	
		Nairobi	97/60
		New Delhi	82/55
		Oslo	115/83
		Paris	65/49
		Rio de Janeiro	91/68
		Rome	79/57
		St. Petersburg	78/60
		Stockholm	63/70
		Warsaw	84/66



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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5		
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31					27	28					
Begin 1st Quarter 1st Semester							President's						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30			27	28	29	30	31		
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2						1	2
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DoDDS Pacific 2004-2005 School Year

Mission—The Community Strategic Plan ensures that we achieve the Department of Defense Education Activity's important mission, to "provide in military communities worldwide exemplary educational programs that inspire and prepare all students for success in a global environment."

New Student Registration—Eligibility to enroll in DoDDS is based on the documentation provided at the time of enrollment. Please check with your local school for details. Required documentation: Sponsor's PCS orders, SSN, emergency contact person, copy of passport or birth certificate (PK, K, 1st), report cards and other academic records, dependent verification, mailing and home address, and immunization/vaccination record.

School Lunches—School hot meal service is provided by AAFES. The cost for K-4 is \$1.95, for middle and high school students, \$2.10, and non-students, \$3.20. A la carte service is available to middle and high schools.

Information is available on applications for free and reduced priced lunch for qualifying families at the local school and student transportation offices. Parents are encouraged to visit the school and join their children for lunch.

Transportation—Student transportation is provided for all eligible students living within the designated school bus commuting area. For more information and to register your children, bring them to the Student Transportation Office in your area to have their picture taken and receive bus ridership information. You must be registered with the school first. Registered students are provided bus passes which allow them access to the bus.

Advisory Councils—The responsibility to support the schools is shared among parents, teachers, sponsors, students, administrators, and military commanders through advisory councils. Participation in advisory councils enhances and improves educational programs and services. Check with your local school

to get involved in the School Advisory Committee (SAC).

Far East Activities—The DoDDS Pacific Far East Activities Program parallels state level competitions. Twelve events for high school students are held throughout the school year. Students have the opportunity to compete with each other as well as various international and host nation schools, enhancing their athletic, academic, and cultural experiences.

Far East Activities Schedule
Cross Country.....Nov. 8-10
Cheerleading Clinic.....Nov. 8-12
Girls' Sm. School.....Nov. 8-12
Volleyball.....Nov. 8-13
Tennis.....Nov. 8-13
JROTC.....Feb. 7-9
SpeedVests Festival.....Feb. 8-12
Wrestling.....Feb. 21-23
Girls' Sm. School Basketball.....Feb. 21-25

Boys' Sm. School Basketball.....Feb. 21-25
Girls' Lg. School Basketball.....Feb. 21-26
Boys' Lg. School Basketball.....Feb. 21-26
Model UN.....Mar. 7-9
JHS.....Mar. 20-24
Music Festival.....Apr. 25-29
Girls' Lg. School Soccer.....May 16-20
Boys' Lg. School Soccer.....May 16-20
Girls' Sm. School Soccer.....May 18-20
Boys' Sm. School Soccer.....May 18-20

Student/Parent Handbook—Each school publishes a student/parent handbook that provides families with comprehensive information such as school policies and practices, schedules and events, educational and support programs and services, health and safety, attendance and discipline, and parent and community involvement.

Scheduled Assessments—DoDDS Pacific is in the forefront of school systems giving annual assessments. The annual standardized, systematic

assessment, CTB TerraNova is administered to all students grades 3-11 in March.

Post-secondary Planning—In DoDDS Pacific, post-secondary planning involves working with students in grades 9-12 by introducing new elements pertaining to college and careers each year. During the first two years, students are encouraged to enroll in rigorous academic courses, develop resumes, and participate in the Preliminary SAT (PSAT). The last two years students are assisted with collecting college information, exploring post-secondary options, researching scholarships, investigating careers, developing essays and recommendations, and participating in SAT or ACT.

Contact Information—To learn more about our school system and to contact us, please log on to the DoDDS Pacific Web site at www.pac.dodds.edu.



2004 ATHENS OLYMPICS

Phelps ties Spitz with 4th individual gold

U.S. swimmer gives final relay spot to Crocker but still can win 8th medal

BY PAUL NEWBERRY

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — Michael Phelps swam the race of his life — then topped himself again.

Capping a magnificent Olympics with a magnanimous gesture, Phelps matched Mark Spitz's record of four individual swimming gold medals and then gave up a coveted spot on the 400-meter medley relay team to Maine's Ian Crocker — the man Phelps had just beaten.

With five golds and seven medals overall, Phelps is content to win a historic eighth medal while sitting in the stands Saturday night.

His Olympics are over. "We came into this meet as a team," Phelps said. "We'll leave here as a team."

In an Olympics that became his personal showcase, the 19-year-old from Baltimore came through with another stirring performance in the 100 butterfly. He had every reason to be tired, racing for the 17th time in seven days. And he was taking on Crocker — the world record-holder, the guy who beat Phelps in the world championships and the U.S. Olympic trials.

Midway through the race, it seemed as though Phelps had met his match. Crocker led his teammate by a half-body length, making the turn under world-record pace. Phelps was lagging in fifth, his quest for another gold in serious jeopardy.

But Phelps' huge wingspan began to dig furiously into the water, leaving behind a wake that resembled a washing machine cleaning a load of clothes. With 20 meters to go, he had pulled up on Crocker's shoulder. At the wall, both men lunged for the gold.

Phelps got it, beating Crocker by a minuscule four-hundredths of a second in an Olympic record 51.25 seconds. Andriy Serdinov of Ukraine took the bronze with a time of 51.36.

"He's a great champion," said International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge, who watched Phelps' victory



Michael Phelps of the U.S. swims to the gold medal in the 100-meter butterfly at the Olympic Aquatic Centre on Friday in Athens, Greece. After the race, Phelps gave up his spot on the 400-meter medley relay team to teammate Ian Crocker, who he had just beaten in the 100 butterfly. Phelps still has a chance to win a record-tying eighth medal in these Games because he took part in the preliminaries for the medley relay.

from a front-row seat at the Aquatic Centre. "Definitely, he is going to be one of the icons of the Games."

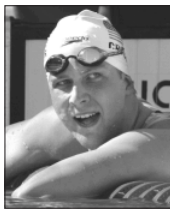
Normally, the winner of the 100 fly gets a spot in the medley relay final. But Phelps, who already had taken part in the morning preliminaries, decided to give his spot to Crocker. Everyone who participates on a top-three relay team — whether it's the preliminaries or a final — receives a medal.

The United States has never lost a medal relay in the Olympics, and this American team will be an overwhelming favorite to keep that streak alive — no matter if it's Crocker instead of Phelps swimming the fly.

Therefore, Phelps still is likely to tie Soviet gymnast Aleksandr Dityatin's record of eight medals in one Olympics, accomplished in the boycotted 1980 Moscow Games.

While saying he feels Crocker is a better relay swimmer, Phelps' main concern was Crocker's poor performance in the 400 free relay last Sunday. A dismal opening leg put the Americans in a hole, and they settled for bronze.

"It's tough to give up the relay. It really is," Phelps said.



Crocker, above, will get a chance to make up for Friday's loss to Phelps in the 100 butterfly and a poor leg in the 400 free relay last Sunday in the 400 medley relay.

"But Ian is one of the greatest relay swimmers in the world. He wasn't feeling well during the 400 relay. Hopefully, he'll step up big in the medley relay."

Phelps probably also was sensitive to the teammates who have been overshadowed by his amazing accomplishments leading up to the Athens Games.

"It's the right thing to do," he said.

Spitz was in the stands to watch Phelps' final race in Athens.

As the teenager walked around the deck with his latest gold medal, he spotted Spitz holding up four fingers.

"What he did was an amazing accomplishment," Phelps said.

"Just to be mentioned in the same sentence with him is unbelievable."

Spitz won a record seven gold medals in the 1972 Munich Games. Phelps will fall short of that record, but this performance — in a swimming world that is much more competitive than it was three decades ago — could very well be more impressive than the one he was chasing.

The United States picked up another gold medal Friday night in the 50 free, where 29-year-old Gary Hall Jr. defended the title he shared with fellow American Anthony Ervin in Sydney four years ago.

It was an especially sweet victory for the irreverent Hall, who was upset about being left off a couple of U.S. relay teams.

Swimming as though he had something to prove, he recovered from a slow start to touch in 21.93 — beating Croatia's Dujic Dragandja by one-hundredth of a second.

Hall ripped off his cap, threw

up his arms in a defiant pose and climbed out of the pool to take a bow. He plans to be back in 2008.

"Why not?" he said, savoring the 10th medal of his career.

"Defiance. It's fun."

Roland Schoeman of South Africa, a close friend of Hall's, took the bronze in 22.02. Another American, Jason Lezak, was fifth in 22.11.

Kirsty Coventry of Zimbabwe won her third medal of the Games, capturing gold in the 200 backstroke. She led all the way and finished in 2:09.19. Russia's Stanislava Komarova took silver in 2:09.72, while the bronze went to Reiko Nakamura of Japan in 2:09.99.

Coventry swims at Auburn University, although her family remains in the Zimbabwe capital of Harare. She already had a silver from the 100 back and a bronze from the 200 individual medley.

American Margaret Hoelzer finished fifth.

The United States lost its hold on women's 800 freestyle when Ai Shibata of Japan won gold in 8:25.54 — the first major international medal of her career. Laure Manaudou of France claimed silver in 8:24.96, her third medal of these Games.

The U.S. team did manage a medal when Diana Munz beat out countrywoman Katelyn Keller for the bronze, overtaking her in the final meters. Munz's time was 8:26.61 — just 36-hundredths ahead of Keller in the grueling race, the longest on the women's program.

The Americans had won the event in five consecutive Olympics, including back-to-back titles by Janet Evans in 1988 and 1992 and Brooke Bennett in 1996 and 2000. Tiffany Cohen started the streak at the boycotted 1984 Los Angeles Games.

Munz had no complaints about finishing third. She had expected to swim the 800 in the Sydney Games, only to get squeezed out of a spot in the U.S. trials by just five-hundredths of a second.

"It was a long wait, but I've done it," Munz said. "I trained four years ... so of course I'm excited and happy that I'm third."

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2004 ATHENS OLYMPICS

In Athens, heat is on competitors, fans

Sun, soaring temperatures leave many at venues searching for relief

BY NIKO PRICE
The Associated Press

It wasn't even noon Thursday, and already they were getting half-naked at the pool.

As some of the best swimmers in the world raced through the 100-meter butterfly, the stands were filled with shirtless men and bikini-clad women. People covered their heads with towels, flags, bandanas — anything that would ward off the broiling rays. The strollers were filled with fans desperate for a patch of shade.

Temperatures soared into the mid-90s, and the Olympic flame paled in comparison to the scorching sun.

"I'm about ready to dive into the pool on top of one of the swimmers," said 22-year-old Amy Tzagouris of Columbus, Ohio, who had stripped down to short-shorts and a bikini top. "I'm pretending I'm at the beach."

The high temperatures were more than an annoyance in some sports. Athletes worried their performances would wither. Coaches broke out cooling vests, ice wraps — even "ice chairs," where tennis players and other athletes can dunk their arms in freezing water.

"The environment issues are a big deal in these Olympics, more so than in the past, with high heat, pollution and reflective surfaces," said Dr. David Weinstein, head physician for the U.S. Olympic team.

"It's illness and injuries, but also performance," he said. "Even a small amount of body-weight loss — 2 or 3 percent — can lead to a significant deterioration in the muscle strength and power, as well as endurance capacity."

On the Olympics' first day, when the dry heat reached 104 degrees, cycling officials changed a rule, letting team cars hand



Italy's Daniela Gattelli places a bottle of cold water on her head to help cool down during a match against the Republic of South Africa at the Olympic Beach Volleyball Centre in Athens, Greece on Thursday. Athletes, spectators and journalists have been scorched by the sun at the Games.

water bottles to riders. Weary cyclists slid ice packs down their jerseys, and about half the men's field was unable to complete the 139-mile race.

At the beach volleyball stadium Thursday, Brazilian star Adriana Bache played complained during a match with Cuba that the sizzling sand was burning her bare feet. But when Behar asked the Greek referee

to hose down the sand for relief, she coolly replied: "No."

"It was hot, very hot," said Behar, who was able to gut out a victory with partner Sheldia Bede.

Still, the hottest venue was probably the pool — and not just because of the swimmers. Organizers planned to put a roof on the aquatic center, but the idea was canceled because of soaring costs and the rush to get ready for the games.

Swimmers said the lack of a roof didn't matter much, but it was a different story for the fans.

"By the end of the day it's almost too hot to eat," said Brownen Burnester of Tauranga, New Zealand. "We drank four bottles of water in one hour. Our lipscreens have melted."

She and her husband, Greg, draped kiwi sports flags over their heads, but said sometimes they almost wished they were rooting for someone else.

"New Zealand has black flags. We want to wear black clothes, but it's too hot," she said. "You're lucky if you have a light-colored country."

The swimming events are the worst because the stands are almost entirely in the sun, and the water reflects its rays right back up at fans.

"Water, water, water, water," was the mantra for Gerda Giesman of Rijnsdrecht in the Netherlands, holding a battery-powered fan to her bright-red face. "We like to sit in the shade, but here there is no shade."

Minutes later, she had abandoned her seat for a breather in the shaded stairwell. Hundreds of others had the same idea.

"It's like a sauna," said Josephine Joergensen of Aarhus, Denmark, gasping for air by the refreshment stand. "It's too hot out there."

Journalists covering the meets were suf-

fering as well, with some wearing hoodies and gloves against the sun. A few burned their hands when they touched their computer mice; the lenses on one reporter's sunglasses melted in the sun's blazing rays.

Olympics officials have dotted venues with drinking fountains, and announcers remind fans to drink water and use sunscreen.

First-aid tents have nurses to help anyone with heat exhaustion or sunstroke. But officials said they've logged only 17 heat-related cases so far, accounting for 0.034 percent of those seeking help.

Coaches lectured athletes on staying hydrated and covering up. A sign at the apartments where the U.S. softball team is staying was printed on a bright yellow sheet: "If your urine in the color of this paper, you are not drinking enough."

Athens is hot, but major sports events have been held in worse heat. Temperatures climbed into the 100s at the 1996 Atlanta Games, where it was much more humid than in Athens. It was cool at the 2000 Sydney Games because winter was just ending in the southern hemisphere.

At last year's Pan American Games in the Dominican Republic, officials dropped blocks of ice into the swimming pool after the Canadian team complained the water was intolerably hot. A field hockey match between the U.S. and Chile was delayed for an hour while players waited for fire trucks to hose down the parched field.

So far in Athens, most athletes said they have been able to manage.

"The sun hits you in the face when you're swimming the backstroke, but with a good pair of goggles there isn't a problem," Uruguayan swimmer Serrana Fernandez said. "I like it being open, because I suffer a lot when it's cold."

Niko Price is correspondent-at-large for The Associated Press.

Wambach: Chastain, Tarpley see first action of Games

WAMBACH, FROM BACK PAGE

Brandi Chastain and Lindsey Tarpley got their first starts in the tournament, and all 11 starters played the full 90 minutes.

Heinrichs also moved Lilly to forward and opened with three attackers for the first time in the tournament. Wambach returned after serving a one-game suspension for rough play.

All three goals were a bit strange. Lilly's goal came when the longtime veteran shook two defenders for a run into the

penalty area, where she lost the ball on Hiromi Isozaki's tackle. Homare Sawa then booted the bounding ball high into the air and Tarpley charged in. She whiffed on a header, but it distracted goalkeeper Yamaguchi enough for Lilly to drive an 8-yard shot just inside the left post.

Japan tied the game three minutes into the second half on Yamamoto's long free kick that bounced slowly into the far post.

Scurry and the U.S. defenders were caught flat-footed because Sawa missed

tying to head the ball.

Japan entered the game with much more time to prepare in an unusual Olympic format that had teams playing different numbers of first-round games. The U.S. team, the oldest in the tournament, was playing its fourth game in 10 days.

"Playing Japan on two days' rest with Japan on five days' rest and coming out with a win in a commanding fashion is a good lift for our team right now," Heinrichs said.



Christie Rampone, right, of the U.S. goes for the ball against striker Mio Otani of Japan on Friday in Thessaloniki, Greece.

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2004 ATHENS OLYMPICS

S. Korean archers win team gold again

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — Trailblazing by 26 points with three arrows left, South Korea turned to Park Sung-hyun to keep its streak of women's archery dominance alive.

Park hit nine and then eight, and needed a 10 for victory on the final shot of the match.

The Olympic champion didn't miss.

Park shot a 10 on the last arrow of the women's team competition Friday at Panathinaiko Stadium, giving South Korea a 241-240 victory over China and its fifth consecutive gold medal in the event. The Koreans have won the gold in every Games since the team event was added to the Olympic program in 1988 in Seoul and all 11 women's archery golds since their first appearance in the sport in 1984.

Park defeated teammate Lee Sung-jin in the final to win the individual gold on Wednesday. Their third teammate, Yun Bi-jin, won the individual gold in Sydney in 2000.

China shot three nines in its last end, opening a 26-point lead over the Koreans, who had three arrows left. Park, the 2001 world champion and 2003 runner-up, delivered the 27 points needed to give South Korea another archery gold.

Taiwan defeated France 242-228 to win the bronze.

In Olympic archery, competitors stand 70 meters from targets, which is 122-centimeters in diameter. The 10-point ring on the target is 12.2 centimeters (4.8 inches) in diameter.

Cycling

Men's 1-kilometer time trial: Chris Hoy won in an Olympic-record time of 1 minute, 0.711 seconds on Friday, giving Britain its first gold medal of the Athens Games.

France's Arnaud Tournant was second in 1:00.896. He was 0.358 seconds behind Hoy for the gold in this year's world championships. Germany's Stefan Nimke, the time trial silver medalist in the 2000 Olympics, won the bronze in 1:01.186.

Women's 500-meter time trial: Anna Meares of Australia won the gold medal Friday, finishing two laps around the Olympic velodrome in a world-record 33.952 seconds.

Jiang Yonghua of China, the former world-record holder, won the silver with a time of 34.112 seconds. Natalia Tsyshynska of Belarus won the bronze in 34.167 seconds.

Track and field

Men's 20-kilometer walk: Ivan Brungetti of Italy pulled away over the final 2,000 meters to win the gold medal.



Germany's Marcus Becker, right and Stefan Henze compete in the final race of the C2 men's canoe event at the Olympic Canoe-Kayak slalom venue in Athens on Friday. The pair won the silver medal, Pavol Hochschorner and Peter Hochschorner of Slovakia won the gold medal and Jaroslav Volf and Ondrej Stapek of Czech Republic won the bronze.

Medals roundup

Brungetti won in a personal best 1 hour, 19 minutes, 39 seconds, finishing 5 seconds ahead of silver medalist Francisco Fernandez of Spain. Nathan Deakes of Australia won the bronze in 1:20.02.

Men's 10,000 meters: Kenenisa Bekele ended the reign of fellow Ethiopian Haile Gebrselassie with an Olympic record time of 27:05.10.

Gebrselassie, 31 and suffering from an Achilles' tendon injury, had won the past two Olympic 10,000 races. He finished fifth.

Shooting

Men's 50-meter prone: American Matt Emmons won the gold medal with a score of 703.3.

Christian Lusch of Germany won the silver medal with 702.2, and Sergei Martynov of Belarus took the bronze.

Women's 50-meter three-position rifle: Lioubov Galkina of Russia won the gold medal with an Olympic-record score of 688.4.

Valentina Tursini of Italy won the silver and Wang Chengyi of China took the bronze.

Canoe-Kayak

Men's two-man canoe: Pavol and Peter Hochschorner took the gold medal once again, winning by more than 3 seconds.

The brothers from Slovakia moved smoothly through the whitewater course, showing the form that helped them win the gold medal in the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

Their time was 207.16, beating Marcus Becker and Stefan Henze of Germany by 3.82 seconds.

Men's kayak: Frenchman Benoît Peschier, who entered the Olympics ranked 12th in the world in single kayak slalom, put together a pair of clean, fast runs to win the gold medal.

Britain's Campbell Walsh was second and defending world champion Fabien Lefevre of France took the bronze.

Table Tennis

Women's doubles: China's team of Wang Nan and Zhang Yining won the gold medal, beating Lee Eun-sil and Suk Eun-mi of South Korea 11-9, 11-7, 11-6, 11-6.

Gymnastics

Women's trampolene: Anna Dogonadze of Germany won the gold medal, scoring 39.60 points of a maximum 40 to edge Karen Cockburn of Canada.

Cockburn, the bronze medalist in Sydney, where trampolene made its Olympic debut, finished with 39.20 points. Huang Shanshan of China took bronze with 39.00.

Badminton

Men's doubles: Kim Dong-moon and Ha Tae-kwon of South Korea won the gold medal, beating compatriots Lee Dong-soo and Yoo Yong-sung. Indonesia's Eng Hian and Flandy Limpele won the bronze medal.

Fencing

Women's team epee: Russia used a patient, defensive strategy to defeat Germany 34-28 and win the gold medal.

Judo

Men's over 100 kg: Women's over 78 kg-plus: Keiji Suruki and Maki Tsukada took gold medals Friday to give Japan eight wins from 14 events these Olympics, a record haul for the country that invented the discipline.

Suruki won in the over 100kg category and Tsukada took the over 78kg-plus division.

In the women's category, Tsukada beat Dayna Beltran when she held the Cuban down for 25 seconds.

Weightlifting

Women's 75 kg: Pawina Thongsuk of Thailand, 11 pounds lighter than most of the other competitors, shrugged off two world record-setting lifts by 19-year-old Russian Natalia Zabolotnaia to come back and win the gold.

U.S. softball team sets up showdown

Americans to face Australia in semis

BY TOM WITHERS

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — Seven straight Olympic shutouts, and 77 victories in a row. The U.S. softball team is rolling like no team in history.

Cat Osterman struck out 10 in six innings, Crystl Bustos homered and the United States completed a perfect run through the preliminary round with a 3-0 victory over Taiwan on Friday, setting up a U.S.-Australia showdown in the semifinals.

On another blistering day, the U.S. (7-0) stayed as hot as the Athenian sunshin.

The Americans are dominating in a way never seen before. Through seven games, they've outscored the opposition 41-0, allowed just 11 hits, permitted three runners to reach third and are poised to completely rewrite the Olympic record book.

"We want to dominate," said center fielder Amanda Prosser.

Dominant may not adequately describe what the U.S. has done to the field over the past week.

Here's why, now is when things get interesting.

Having cruised through round-robin play unscathed, the United States moves into Sunday's semifinals for a rematch with Australia, the only team to beat the Americans twice in the Olympics.

And the pitcher who got both of those wins — Tanya Harding — is

likely to start for the Aussies in the semifinals.

"I'm kind of thinking she might be on the mound," said U.S. coach Mike Candrea, who will go with Jennie Finch or Lisa Fernandez.

Fernandez will gladly take the ball. "I want to start everyday," she said.

Finch, too, would love to be the one in the circle.

"I hope 1-0 start," she said, "but if I don't I'll support whoever is."

Right now, it may not matter who pitches. The United States didn't show many flaws in the opening round, but the tournament starts anew this weekend.

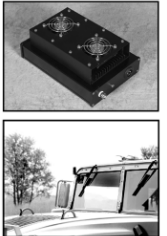
The Americans, who have already clinched at least a bronze medal, beat Australia 10-0 in a game shortened to five innings by the "mercy rule" earlier in the week. Things probably won't be so easy next time.

"Australia couldn't care less what we've done in the last seven games," Fernandez said. "It's a clean slate."

Give Taiwan (2-5) credit. The Taiwanese nearly scored, got three hits — two in the seventh off three-time Olympian Lori Harigan — and became just the third team to go the seven-inning distance with the Americans.

Taiwan loaded the bases in the third, but Osterman got out of the jam with a strikeout. In the seventh, Freed made a diving catch in the gap, jumped up and doubled the runner off first base.

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2004 ATHENS OLYMPICS

Federation to review scoring of men's all-around

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — The International Gymnastics Federation met Friday to review South Korea's protest of the score for Yang Tae-young in the all-around that left him with the bronze medal and gave American Paul Hamm the gold.

No matter what the result, though, scores cannot be reversed and Hamm's medal cannot be taken away, FIG spokesman Philippe Silacci said. He said FIG officials were reviewing tapes from Wednesday's all-around to determine whether scores should be sanctioned.

Silacci said he expected a decision to be announced Saturday.

Hamm won Wednesday night's meet with a score of 57.823, 0.012 points better than South Korea's Kim Da-eum in the closest all-around finish in Olympic history. Yang finished third with a score of 57.774.

South Korea's gymnastics federation complained because Yang's parallel bars routine received a start value of 10 in team

Olympics roundup

preliminary and finals, but only a 9.9 for the same set in the all-around. Had Yang received the extra tenth of a point, he would have finished first. "Judges can make mistakes. That's human," Silacci said. "But it's like football. They cannot change the score once the game is over."

Silacci said reviews like this normally come weeks or months after the competition. But this "extraordinary meeting" was held quickly so that, if needed, judges could be sanctioned before Monday's parallel bars final.

The rules give countries the chance to make inquiries about scoring decisions, but those inquiries can only result in a changed score if they're put in before the following rotation is over. "If you don't take advantage of that opportunity, then you lose that opportunity," said USA Gymnastics President Bob Colasouris.

Hamm fell on the vault in Wednesday's all-around and scored 13.137 that dropped him to 12th place, seemingly out of the running.

He closed with a pair of 9.837s on parallel bars and high bar, and when several other gymnasts faltered, he won the gold medal.

Afterward, Romanians Ioan Suciu said "the USA got something more than it deserved."

Webb fails to make it of preliminaries in men's 1,500

ATHENS, Greece — Alan Webb, who was supposed to end America's streak of mediocrity in middle-distance races, got outmaneuvered and outrun as he failed to make it out of the preliminary round in the 1,500 meters.

Trying to end a 36-year U.S. drought in the Olympic 1,500, Webb finished ninth in his heat Friday. Twenty-four runners advanced, and Webb had the 25th-fastest time. He missed qualifying by 11 seconds.

Webb finished in 3 minutes, 41.25 seconds. He was in the middle of the field most of the race,

and faded on the final stretch.

The last American to win an Olympic medal in the 1,500 was Jim Ryun, who earned silver in 1968.

Three Americans — including 37-year-old Gail Devers — advanced from their preliminary heats in the 100 meters.

Laury Williams was fastest in her heat in 11.16 seconds. U.S. champion LaTasha Colander won her heat in 11.31. Devers advanced by placing third in her heat in 11.29.

U.S. Olympic trials triple jump champion Melvin Lester failed to make the finals.

U.S. women clinch top spot

Challenged for the first time in these Olympics, the U.S. women's basketball team fought through foul problems and long stretches of cold shooting to clinch first place in its preliminary group with a 71-58 victory over Spain.

The U.S. had won its first three games by an average of 31 points.

American Fish to play for gold

Plus 100kg
Bronze Medal Contest 1
Dennis van der Geest, Netherlands, def. Seyid Mahmudov Miran Fashandi, Iran, 10-10 (5-5, 5-5).

Silver Medal Contest 1
Indrek Hristov, def. Paolo Bili, Slovakia, 10-10 (5-5, 5-5).

Keiji Suzuki, Japan, def. Tamerlan Temirov, Russia, 10-10 (5-5, 5-5).

Tea Doronjic, def. Insa Yehyaoui, Tunisia, 10-10 (5-5, 5-5).

Sun Fuming, China, def. Yurya Prokopyeva, Ukraine, 10-10 (5-5, 5-5).

Maik Tsukagawa, def. Dayana Beltrán, Cuba, 10-10 (5-5, 5-5).

Shooting
Women
50m Rifle 3 Positions
1. Loubouk Gassanov, Uzbekistan, 687, 101.4.

2. Valentina Turisini, Italy, 585, 100.9.

3. Wang Chengyi, China, 584, 101.4, 605.4.

4. Olga Bogdan, Kazakhstan, 588, 60.9.

5. Lee Hye-Jin, South Korea, 584, 57.9, 68.9.

6. Sonja Pfeilschifter, Germany, 582, 57.6.

7. Barbara Lechner, Germany, 580, 57.6, 67.6.

8. Sattara Khatib, Ukraine, 579, 58.2, 67.2.

9. U.S. Finishers
1. Morgan Hicks, U.S., 576, 57.7, 57.7.

2. Caprice Bourke, Canada, 575, 57.7, 57.7.

3. Matthew Emmons, Browns Mills, N.J., 572.

4. Christian Luusa, Germany, 598, 104.2.

5. Sergei Martynov, Belarus, 595, 104.5.

6. Jozsef Gombi, Slovakia, 598, 102.5, 70.5.

7. Andrea Nicolai, Italy, 597, 102.5, 69.7.

8. Mark Eckhardt, Germany, 595, 100.6.

9. Yvonne Högner, Netherlands, 545.52.

10. Michael Bahr, Germany, 595, 101.8, 59.8.

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Toms is clubhouse leader in stormy NEC

Cink led by three midway through his round when rain halted play

The Associated Press

AKRON, Ohio — David Toms finished his first round Friday morning with a double bogey. By the end of another day cut short by rain in the NEC Invitational, it wasn't the worst thing that could have happened.

Dropping two shots gave him an earlier start for the second round, and Toms finished his 4-under 66 just ahead of a downpour that made Firestone South unplayable and left Toms as the clubhouse leader.

He was at 5-under 135, although still three shots behind Stewart Cink.

Cink played eight holes in the morning to polish off a 7-under 63. He was at 8-under and facing a 5-foot 21 birdie putt downstream on the 11th hole when play was suspended.

"I guess that double put me in a position to be able to finish," Toms said. "Other than my last hole this morning, I got on and played solid golf all day. I just did get finished, and I got a pretty nasty out there on the last hole."

The PGA Tour decided to wait

Golf roundup

until the first round was completed before issuing tee times, and only 24 players finished the second round. It shouldn't matter by the end of the week. The forecast was for dry, cool weather the final two days.

Rory Sabbatini (through 13 holes), Rod Pampling (12 holes) and Chris DiMarco (12 holes) also were at 5-under, while Zach Johnson was another stroke back through 10 holes.

Tiger Woods looks like he'll hang onto his No. 1 ranking for at least another week — not because he's playing great, but the guys who have a chance to catch him are showing signs of a letdown following a tough week in contention at Whistling Straits.

PGA champion Vijay Singh, who only needed to finish higher than Woods at Firestone to become No. 1 for the first time in his career, twice tipped out 3-foot par putts and was 5-over for the tournament with three holes left.



Tiger Woods, winless since February, finished the day Friday five shots behind the leader with six holes remaining in his second round.

Ernie Els, who finished one shot out of the PGA playoff, made two double bogeys on the back nine to finish a first-round 72, and already was 6-over par for the second round through 15 holes.

Masters champion Phil Mickelson tied for sixth last week to cap a marvelous year in the majors,

and he usually plays well at Firestone. But he had a 75 on Friday and was at 5-over 145.

Woods, a three-time winner at Firestone, hasn't been able to get much of anything going. He compounded his bogey-bogey to end Thursday evening by ending his first round Friday morning with

another bogey for a 68, his highest opening round in seven appearances at Firestone.

Back-to-back birdies got him headed in the right direction, but one tee shot — some 30 yards right of the fairway on No. 4 — put him into a funk and he missed the few birdie chances he had until his day ended on the 13th hole. "Thank God we get to go home and get some rest," Woods said. "This golf course is not going to get any easier."

Petersen rises in Wendy's

DUBLIN, Ohio — Suzann Pettersen sidestepped a persistent downpour and a long list of challengers to take a one-shot lead in the Wendy's Championship for Children on Friday.

More than an inch of rain pounded the Tartan Fields Golf Club throughout the day, suspending play — as was the case in the first round.

Petersen, one of 66 players unable to complete the first round Thursday, capped an opening 67 with two pars and a birdie early Friday. She then shot 68 to leave her at 9-under 135.

Defending champion Hee-Won Han and Reilly Rankin were one shot behind. A moving list of contention were teenage amateurs Paula Creamer and Michelle Wie, both at 2-under 142.

With spotlight on Manning, Delhomme steals show

BY JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press



Giants rookie Eli Manning, above, went 9-for-15 for 117 yards Thursday in his first NFL start. Kurt Warner was nine of 11 for 71 yards with an interception that was returned for a TD.

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Although the spotlight was on Eli Manning, Jake Delhomme shone the brightest.

Manning had a decent debut as a starter, but Delhomme overshadowed the No. 1 pick in the NFL Draft by throwing for a touchdown and running for another in the Carolina Panthers' 27-20 victory Thursday night over the New York Giants.

The game was the first test for Manning, competing with two-time MVP Kurt Warner for New York's starting job.

Manning looked every bit the carbon copy of his brother, Peyton, pointing out the defense and calling audibles early. His passes were smooth and on the mark. He went 9-for-15 for 117 yards.

But as the first half unfolded, the Panthers' defense stiffened.

Brenton Buckner pushed through the line for a nasty takedown of Manning in the second quarter — Buckner was flagged for encroachment — and Mark Fields sucked him three plays later to end his night.

There were a few hobbles: On his second series, Manning tried to change the play from the shotgun position but ran out of time and earned a delay-of-game penalty.

"I've still got a lot to learn," Manning said. "Feeling better in the pocket, being more comfortable in there. Standing there making my reads and better throws. But every day and every week, I feel more comfortable."

"Eli did all right," Giants coach Tom Coughlin said. "He did OK. We don't have any problems with that."

"He's going to be good," Carolina defensive end Mike Rucker said of Manning. "They're trying to protect him with quick counts and hard counts and quick throws. That's understandable. He'll be good when he gets older."

Delhomme completed 11 of 13 passes for 144 yards, including back-to-back pretty passes to Steve Smith. One was for 38 yards, and Smith jumped over defenders on the next one, an 18-yard completion to the 7-yard line.

Delhomme threw a touchdown pass to Markus Muhammed on the next play for a 10-3 Carolina lead.

Warner was sacked four times and threw an interception late in the fourth quarter to William Hampton, who returned it 49 yards for a touchdown. Warner finished nine of 11 for 71 yards.

IRS says Rose owes nearly \$1 million in unpaid taxes

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Pete Rose is back in trouble with the Internal Revenue Service, which says the baseball great owes nearly \$1 million in unpaid taxes.

The IRS filed a federal tax lien in Broward County on Tuesday alleging that baseball's hit king owes \$973,693.28 in back taxes from 1997 to 2002.

The IRS did not return calls Friday seeking comment.

Rose's business manager, Warren Greene, declined comment,

saying "it's a private matter with Pete and his family." Rose, 63, spent five months in prison in 1990 and 1991 for filing false tax returns.

Rose agreed to a lifetime ban from baseball in 1989 following an investigation that he bet on games. After 14 years of denial, he admitted in his recent book, "My Prison Without Bars" that he bet on games involving the Cincinnati Reds while managing the team in the late 1980s.

Hewitt reaches semis in D.C.

WASHINGTON — Lleyton Hewitt advanced to his sixth semifinal of the season with a 6-3, 3-6,

7-6 (5) victory over seventh-seeded Cyril Saulnier on Friday in the Legg Mason Tennis Classic.

Hewitt will face fourth-seeded American Robby Ginepri, who beat Rasmus Sluiter 6-3, 7-6 (3). Top-seeded Andre Agassi played Paul-Henri Mathieu later Friday, and Gilles Muller faced Michel Kratochvil in Friday's final match.

Saints LB Hodge suspended

NEW ORLEANS — New Orleans Saints linebacker Sedrick Hodge has been suspended for four games by the NFL for violating its substance abuse policy. Hodge, a third-round draft se-

lection by the Saints in 2001, was expected to start at strong-side linebacker.

In other team news, the Saints released cornerback Derek Ross one day after placing a waiver claim on the former Ohio State standout. Ross missed a scheduled flight to New Orleans on Wednesday.

Steelers OG Simmons out for season

LATROBE, Pa. — Pittsburgh right guard Kendall Simmons will miss the season with a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee, leaving the Steelers short on an offensive line lacking depth.

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Sports briefs

Major League Baseball statistics

Through Aug. 19

American League

TEAM	BATTING	IP	R	HR	RB	AVG
Anaheim	4257	61	1205	114	577	.283
Houston	4314	67	1214	136	581	.281
Boston	4206	67	1183	161	581	.281
Baltimore	4300	64	1172	145	575	.281
Texas	4013	63	1160	148	562	.278
Oakland	4300	64	1172	145	575	.281
Seattle	4128	63	1094	178	565	.267
Los Angeles	4121	62	1088	165	567	.267
Chicago	4064	60	1083	186	560	.266
Minnesota	4201	65	1110	101	470	.264
San Diego	4165	56	1099	136	526	.262
Tampa Bay	4094	52	1052	106	502	.256
Kansas City	4011	59	1038	109	477	.256

INDIVIDUAL BATTING						
Based on 350 plate appearances						
	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
Se	516	72	189	6	44	.366
l	378	85	130	21	75	.344
ez Det	413	55	138	16	68	.334
ak	377	62	123	18	64	.326
ro Ana	462	92	150	27	94	.325
z Det	332	41	107	2	26	.322

Farmhand provides a major lift for Cards

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Dan Haren pitched like a future member of the St. Louis Cardinals' rotation, giving the bullpen some relief before going to the team's Triple-A affiliate in Memphis.

Haren threw 6 2/3 innings of three-hit ball, helping the Cardinals beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 5-4 in the first game of a day-night doubleheader Friday. He retired 13 batters in a row before hitting Jason Bay in the sixth, then retired three straight before hitting Castillo his sixth home run with two outs in the seventh.

"The only thing he lacks is experience," manager Tony La Russa said of the 23-year-old Haren, a second-round draft pick in 2001. "He's just a baby. He's learning, and he's getting better."

The Pirates scored three runs in the fourth on relievers Ray King and Jason Irsinghausen on an RBI double by pinch-hitter Bobby Hill and Abraham Nunez's two-run, pinch-hit single.

Irsinghausen struck out Jason Kendall for the second out with a runner on first. Jack Wilson followed with a comebacker that hit off Irsinghausen, and rolled to ward first base. The Cardinals then chased the ball down and flipped it to first base for the final out and his 34th save, matching his career high.

"We made a little run," said Pirates manager Lloyd McClendon, whose team lost for only the fourth time in 13 games. "We had some good things going. Lady Luck was on their side."

The Cardinals optioned Haren (2-2), who is 9-4 at Memphis, back to the minors after the game and purchased the contract of right-handed reliever Al Reyes for added depth. St. Louis is in the midst of playing 14 games in 13 days.

"I know the situation, I'm not stupid," Haren said. "I knew we needed extra protection in the bullpen. I think I did my job."

Larry Walker and Scott Rolen, who both struggled in a 3-2 10-inning loss on Thursday, played prominent roles as the Cardinals recovered from losing consecutive games for the first time since July 23-24. Walker, who was 0-for-5 with three strikeouts and two double-play balls Thursday,



Dan Haren gave up one run and three hits in 6 2/3 innings for St. Louis on Friday, then was sent to the team's Triple-A affiliate.

single in the first to help produce a run, and doubled and scored on Rolen's single in the third.

Rolen had his first two-error game in more than three seasons Thursday, bobbling a grounder to allow the go-ahead run to score. He made a nice fielding play to rob Kendall in the second Friday. The NL Central leaders have won 12 of 16 and ended a four-game losing streak against the Pirates.

The Cardinals nicked Josh Fogg (7-9) for a run in the first, third, fourth and fifth innings.

Jim Edmonds had a bases-loaded walk in the first, Yadier Molina had two hits with an RBI single in the fourth and Edgar Renteria had a sacrifice fly in the fifth.

In NL games Thursday: **Mets 10-4, Rockies 3-2:** David Wright hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer in the ninth inning to help New York complete a doubleheader sweep in Denver.

The Mets won the opener behind the pitching of Kris Benson (10-9) and Mike Cameron's four RBIs, then tied the nightcap on Eric Valente's leadoff homer in the eighth against Tim Lincecum.

Richard Hidalgo opened the ninth with a popup behind the mound and reached first when Steve Reed (3-3) was charged with an error after colliding with shortstop Royce Clayton. Wright followed with his fifth homer.

Braves hand Gagne another loss

By Ken Peters

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Johnny Estrada's fourth hit of the game was a slow roller that just squeezed through the infield.

It still was a big hit.

Estrada homered, drove in three runs and started Atlanta's decisive rally in the ninth inning, and the Braves beat Eric Gagne and the Los Angeles Dodgers 6-5 Thursday night.

Atlanta manager Bobby Cox is getting used to Estrada's key hits.

"If you look at Johnny's numbers — his on-base percentage, his batting average, his runs knocked in. I think he still leads the big leagues with runs in scoring position," Cox said. "He's having a fantastic year, and he's a great catcher."

Estrada is batting .330, including .390 (39-for-100) with runners in scoring position, and has 63 RBIs.

In a matchup of division leaders, the Dodgers had tied it 5-5 on

consecutive home runs by Adrian Beltré and Shawn Green, the second solo homer of the game for each.

Gagne gave up a one-out RBI single to pinch-hitter Adam LaRoche in the ninth to lose for the second time in two games.

"This would have been a great playoff game," said the Braves' John Smoltz, who pitched a perfect ninth for his 32nd save in 34 chances and franchise-record 142 of his career.

"The crowd was in it and they know what's at stake for their city, because it's been a while. We beat a great one tonight — Gagne in the ninth."

Gagne (4-3) gave up Estrada's leadoff single, with the ball rolling just under the glove of diving second baseman Alex Cora.

Nick Green ran for Estrada and moved to second on Eli Marrero's sacrifice bunt. LaRoche pinch-hit for Chris Reitsma and Green advanced on a passed ball by Brent Mayne before LaRoche hit a bryke-bunt single through the right side of the drawn-in infield.

Gagne picked up the barrel of the broken bat and angrily hurled it off the field.

"It's so frustrating. We're playing so well and hitting the ball so well," said Gagne, honored in a pregame ceremony for his major league-record streak of 84 saves that ended earlier this season.

"We should have won tonight, should have won last night," he said. "The way we came back, it's just frustrating to give up a run like that. It's not fun. I'll just have to come back and pitch better the next time."

A night earlier, the Dodgers' closer had blown his second save in 100 chances.

Asked about Gagne, Los Angeles manager Jim Tracy said, "There's nothing wrong with Eric Gagne. He's human."

Shortstop Rafael Furcal made a spectacular diving stab at Izturis' grounder up the middle and got a forecourt to end that inning.

"That play turned the game around," Cox said. "They get that run and we're probably in deep trouble."

MLB batting leader too dizzy to play

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Ichiro Suzuki said not sustain a concussion when he hit his head by a pitch, but the Seattle Mariners' star felt slightly dizzy Thursday and was not scheduled to play against Kansas City.

The game was rained out and rescheduled as part of a doubleheader in Seattle on Aug. 28.

Suzuki, who leads the majors with 189 hits and a .366 average, was hit on the head by rookie Jimmy Serrano on Wednesday.

"The tests were OK, so I should be fine," Suzuki said through a

translator. "We'll see how dizzy I am tomorrow."

White Sox manager Guillen suspended two more games

CHICAGO — White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen was suspended for two more games and fined \$2,000 by the commissioner's office Thursday for calling umpire Hunter Wendelstedt a liar.

Guillen was suspended two games for arguing during an Aug. 9 game against Cleveland, contesting an out call at second base.

Guillen finished serving that suspension Wednesday. But before Wednesday's game, he told reporters he had a problem with some aspects of Wendelstedt's re-

port to the commissioner's office. "I don't blame him for suspend me or whatever it is, but the guy lied. Whatever his name is, Hunter or whatever. He lied. He lied to major league baseball, he lied to Mr. (Bob) Watson, he lied to Mr. Sandy Alderson," Guillen said.

"You are not a real man when you lie."

Rockies P Kennedy, Pirates K Kendall suspended

NEW YORK — Colorado Rockies pitcher Joe Kennedy was suspended Friday for five games and Pittsburgh Pirates catcher Jason Kendall four for their parts in a bench-clearing brawl Sunday.

Both were fined an undisclosed amount.

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After losing 9-3 lead in Minnesota, Yankees are rescued by Sheffield

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — As All-Star closer Joe Nathan walked to the mound in the ninth inning with the Metrodome crowd roaring, the Minnesota Twins looked to be on their way to a three-game sweep of the New York Yankees.



Gary Sheffield changed that with one powerful swing.

Sheffield homered twice and keyed a four-run rally in the ninth inning Thursday night, sending the Yankees to a sevens, 13-10 victory over the Twins.

Nathan, who hadn't allowed a run in 29 innings, got Derek Jeter to ground out leading off the ninth with Minnesota clinging to a one-run lead. His next pitch was a low fastball to Sheffield, who reached down and drove it into the left-center seats.

"It was a good pitch," Sheffield said. "It was just a situation where I was trying to be aggressive. If you get behind in the count with him, he's lights-out. I was just trying to get on base and give us a chance to win the ballgame."

Mission accomplished.

"I'm telling you, the pitch that he made to Sheffield wasn't a bad

pitch," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said. "Ninety-four mph, or whatever, down below the knees and he hit it out. That's just a pretty good hitter."

Earlier, it looked as if the Twins would complete an improbable comeback.

Trailing 9-3 and without Gold Glove center fielder Torii Hunter after he crashed into the fence, the Twins took the lead.

Shannon Stewart hit a two-out, two-run triple past Sheffield's lunge in right field, giving the Twins a 10-9 lead in the eighth and capping a stirring comeback.

"He'd fouled off a bunch of pitches and I didn't think he'd be able to pull one into the gap," Sheffield said. "I just moved over about two steps and it cost us."

He more than made up for it his next at-bat.

After Sheffield's homer, Alex Rodriguez, back from a four-game suspension, followed with a single and a stolen base.

"We were on the road, and you've got to attack," Rodriguez said. "I like to save my legs, but I think I'll run when the game's on the line."

That set the stage for Hideki Matsui, who grounded a go-ahead single.

Later in the inning, pinch-hitter

Ruben Sierra had an RBI single, and another run scored on a throwing error by center fielder Lew Ford.

Nathan tried to brush off the tough loss.

"It's not about worrying about what you did the previous day. It's about coming back in and trying to start a new streak," he said.

Ford entered as a replacement for Hunter.

Tom Gordon (4-3) got the win despite allowing Stewart's triple.

Mariano Rivera pitched the ninth for his major league-leading 41st save.

"I thought we had it when we had a six-run lead the second time," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "But those things happen."

The Twins have a four-game lead over Cleveland in the AL Central. Gardenhire was pleased that his team won a series against the Yankees after losing 13 straight regular-season games to them before this week.

Sheffield and Rodriguez homered to help the Yankees build a big lead going into the seventh, but Paul Quantrill and Gordon couldn't hold it for Orlando Hernandez.

Luis Rivas hit an RBI double, and Quantrill relieved El Duque.



New York outfielder Hideki Matsui drove in the winning run in a four-run ninth with a single.

Stewart followed with a single, and Jacque Jones hit a two-run double to make it 9-6. Ford's RBI triple chased Quantrill. Justin Morneau's RBI grounder off Gordon pulled the Twins within a run.

With two outs and runners on the corners in the eighth, Stewart worked a full count against Gordon before his liner to right-center barely eluded Sheffield, playing with a painful left shoulder.

In another AL game Thursday:

Tigers 8, White Sox 4: Bobby Higginson homered twice and Wilfredo Ledezma (3-0) pitched five shutout innings before giving up three in the sixth in Chicago.

Craig Monroe and Higginson hit consecutive solo shots in the second. Higginson's three-run drive in the third capped Detroit's five-run outburst and finished Jon Garland (8-9).

Twins CF Hunter hits wall, suffers neck strain

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Twins center fielder Torii Hunter strained his neck when he crashed into the padded wall trying to make a catch, and left Thursday night's game against the New York Yankees.

The three-time Gold Glove winner sprang into right-center, chasing a drive by Jorge Posada in the fifth inning. Hunter collided violently against the padding and the ball fell for a double.

Hunter, who wasn't available to reporters after the game, was carted off the field. He was listed as day-to-day.

"I think it basically gets down to like whiplash," manager Ron Gardenhire said. "Hit the baggie with his face, it kind of threw it back, so he got it two different ways. He has a very stiff neck, he's sore. We'll just have to wait and see how it is for tomorrow."

Hunter entered the game between AL division leaders, which New York won 13-10, batting .266 with 15 homers and 54 RBIs. He was 0-for-1 with a walk Thursday night.

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Major League Baseball scoreboard

American League

East Division			
	W	L	Pct
New York	76	43	.637
Baltimore	67	52	.563
Boston	62	57	.519
Toronto	56	65	.462

Central Division			
	W	L	Pct
Minnesota	69	54	.560
Cleveland	59	59	.500
Chicago	64	46	.583
Kansas City	55	55	.500

West Division			
	W	L	Pct
Oakland	58	52	.523
Seattle	67	54	.554
San Diego	54	57	.487
Texas	57	54	.511

Thursday's games			
Anheim 10, N.Y. Yankees	10	0	0
Detroit 8, Chicago White Sox	8	0	0
Seattle at Kansas City, post. Rain			

Friday's games			
Seattle at Anheim			
Oakland at Tampa Bay			
Texas at Chicago White Sox			
San Diego at Kansas City			

Saturday's games			
Anheim (Sale) 7-5 at N.Y. Yankees (Loaiza 9-1)			
Boston (Arroyo 5-5) at Chicago White Sox (Underwood)			
Cleveland (Sabathia 9-7) at Minnesota (Mullins 6-3)			
Toronto (Burrish 1-3) at Baltimore (Cabrera 9-3)			

Sunday's games			
Seattle at Anheim			
Oakland at Tampa Bay			
Texas at Chicago White Sox			
San Diego at Kansas City			

Monday's games			
Boston at Detroit			
Chicago White Sox at Detroit			
Minnesota at Texas			
Baltimore at Oakland			
Kansas City at Anheim			

Tuesday			
Angels 10, Devil Rays 7			

Wednesday			
ANAHIM	W	L	Pct
Ecstall 5	3	2	.600
Truitt 4	2	3	.400
Waller 1	1	4	.200
Johnson 1	1	4	.200
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Monday's games			
Boston at Detroit			
Chicago White Sox at Detroit			
Minnesota at Texas			
Baltimore at Oakland			
Kansas City at Anheim			

Tuesday			
Angels 10, Devil Rays 7			

Pittsburgh 3, St. Louis 2, 10 innings
Atlanta 6, Los Angeles 5

Friday's games

St. Louis 5, Pittsburgh 4, 1st game
Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 2nd game
Chicago Cubs at Houston

SPORTS

Though short of Spitz's seven golds,
Phelps still has shot to tie record
for most medals in one Games, Page 38



Wambach taps in winner for U.S.

Unusual goal against Japan puts women's team in soccer semifinals

BY JOSEPH WHITE
The Associated Press

THESSALONIKI, Greece — Rarely has there been such an unusual sight in a world-class soccer tournament. The United States had a four-player breakaway, with only a lonely goalkeeper to beat.

Abby Wambach finished the play with one of the simplest shots she'll ever take, a 1-foot tap that gave the U.S. team a 2-1 victory over Japan in Friday's Olympic quarterfinals.

The victory sets up a much-anticipated rematch with Germany in the semifinals on Monday. Germany beat the Americans 3-0 last year in the World Cup semifinals and went on to win the title on U.S. soil. Now they get their chance for revenge.

"This is something we've all been thinking about," Wambach said. "I know I have. Every single game we've played I've told myself, don't ever forget how that feels, how it felt when that whistle blew against Germany and we lost."

Germany advanced by defeating Nigeria 2-1 Friday. Brazil beat Mexico 5-0, and Sweden defeated Australia 2-1 to set up the other semifinal.

Before thinking of Germany, the Americans first needed to get past an improving Japanese team. It took a bit of trickery to produce the goal that made the difference.

When Mia Hamm took a long free kick in the second half, midfielder Shannon Boxx made a delayed run forward, timing it perfectly to thwart Japan's offense trap. Three U.S. teammates followed as Boxx chased down Hamm's kick and drew goalkeeper Nozomi Yamago away.

Boxx then slid a pass to Wambach, who literally trotted the ball into the net in the 59th minute for her 17th goal in her last 18 games.

"Our coaching staff told us they like to pull that trap," Wambach said. "Shannon stayed outside and it was a great touch for her to take. Probably the easiest goal I'll ever score in a world event."

There were varying views on whether the play was actually unusual. Japanese coach Eiji Ueda said he hadn't seen the replay, but he took full responsibility because he had worked specifically on the trap during the previous day's practice.

At the same time, U.S. coach April Heinrichs had worked on beating the trap. She also thinks referee Silvia De Oliveira probably made the right call.

Even if she didn't, the goal still counts. "We always teach the team: It's only a foul if the whistle's blown, it's only offside if the referee makes the call and it's only a goal if the whistle's blown," Heinrichs said.

Kristine Lilly scored her second goal in as many games in the 43rd minute for the Americans, who improved to 14-0-3 against Japan. Emi Yamamoto scored for Japan in the 48th in game played before just 1,418 fans at the 26,200-seat Kaftanzoglio Stadium.

The U.S. team played more aggressively throughout, responding to Heinrichs' urge to play with "less caution" after tepid efforts in the three first-round games.

"We played with an attacking mentality, and the nice thing is we sustained that for 90 minutes," Heinrichs said.

SEE WAMBACH ON PAGE 39



USA's Abby Wambach, left, goes for the ball against Japan captain Hiromi Isozaki on Friday in Thessaloniki, Greece. The U.S. won 2-1 and will face Germany in the semifinals.

AP



Scorching sun leaving Olympic athletes, spectators in Athens venues looking for ways to beat the heat

Page 39

Medal count

Leaders after 106 medal events in the 2004 Olympics on Friday, Aug. 20:

Country	G	S	B	Total
United States	17	12	11	40
China	15	11	10	36
Russia	5	11	12	28
Australia	8	5	8	21
Japan	12	4	3	19
Germany	5	5	9	19
France	5	5	6	16
South Korea	4	6	3	15
Italy	5	6	3	14
Netherlands	2	5	5	12

U.S. softball team blanks Taiwan for seventh straight shutout, advances to meeting with Australia in semifinals

Page 40

Men's gymnastics all-around judging to be reviewed, but Hamm will keep gold medal regardless of findings

Page 41

Rain washes out Nextel Cup qualifying at Michigan, putting Johnson on pole for second straight week

Page 35



Giants' QB Manning has decent debut in first exhibition start but gets upstaged by Delhomme

Page 42



Yankees' four-run rally in ninth prevents Twins sweep

Page 46

